SUPERMAN
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MYSTERY IN SPACE
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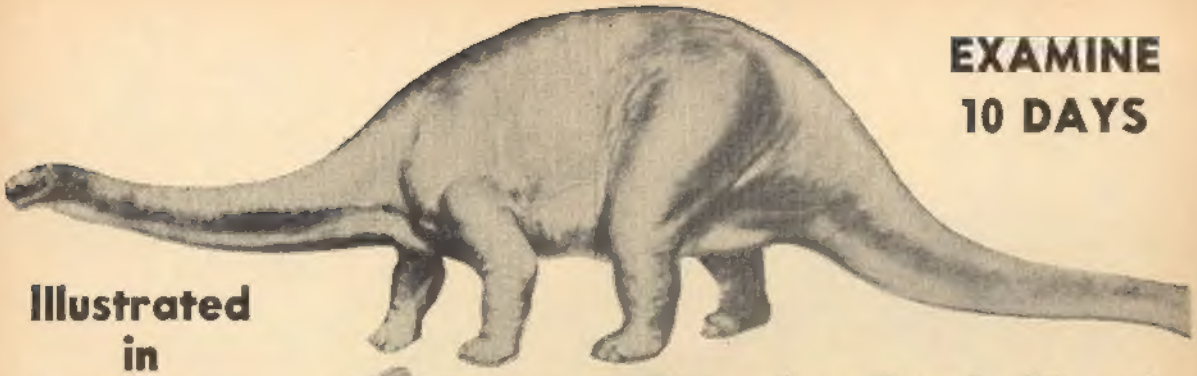
FEB.
NO. 81
A BOOK-LENGTH NOVEL
STARRING
ADAM STRANGE...
"The Cloud-Creature That Menaced Two Worlds!"

EXAMINE 10 DAYS



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ADAM STRANGE

ADAM STRANGE IS THE ONLY EARTHMAN WHO HAS EVER MADE THE 25 TRILLION-MILE JOURNEY TO THE PLANET **RANN** OF THE STAR-SUN **ALPHA CENTAURI!** ON THIS DISTANT WORLD HE HAS FALLEN IN LOVE WITH PRETTY **ALANNA** OF THE CITY-STATE **RANAGAR**--AND WITH HER HAS SHARED MANY ADVENTURES AND DANGERS.

NOW ALANNA COMES TO EARTH TO SEE THE SIGHTS OF **ADAM'S** HOME WORLD--BUT WHILE **ADAM** IS SHOWING HER AROUND, UNKNOWN TO BOTH OF THEM, A DEADLY DANGER MENACES **RANN** ITSELF! AND BECAUSE OF THIS MENACE TO **RANN**--ALL LIFE ON **EARTH** MAY END!

The CLOUD-CREATURE THAT MENACED TWO WORLDS!

THE TIDAL-WAVE CAUSED BY THAT CLOUD-CREATURE WILL SLAM ME AGAINST THIS STONE CLIFF--CRUSH ME! AND WHEN THAT HAPPENS--ALL LIFE ON EARTH WILL PERISH!

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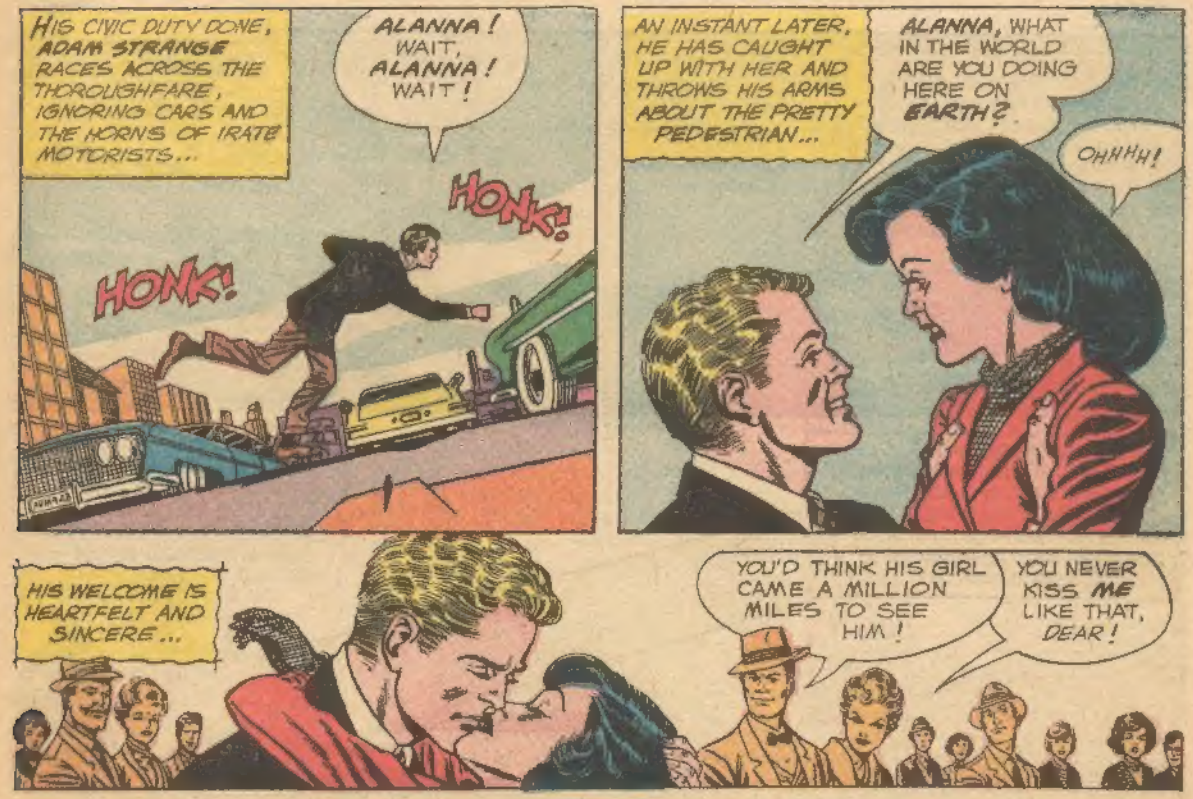
Printed in U.S.A.

AS ARCHEOLOGIST ADAM STRANGE DRIVES THROUGH CROWDED NEW YORK CITY TRAFFIC ON HIS WAY TO THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM...
HO-HO! IT'S YOU AGAIN, IS IT? HOW DO YOU INTEND TO DISAPPEAR THIS TIME?
TRAFFIC OFFICER TOM BOYLE HAS ALREADY SEEN ADAM DISAPPEAR TWICE BEFORE HIS VERY EYES,* AND HE IS DETERMINED NOT TO BE HOODWINKED AGAIN...
I'LL TAKE NO FURTHER CHANCES WITH YOU! I'M NOT TAKING MY EYES OFF YOU UNTIL YOU DRIVE ON OUT OF HERE!
*EDITOR'S NOTE: SEE MYSTERY IN SPACE #72 AND 77
THE YOUNG ARCHEOLOGIST OPENS HIS MOUTH TO MAKE EXCUSES WHEN HIS EYES ARE DRAWN AND HELD BY A PRETTY GIRL ACROSS THE STREET...
OFFICER, I--OH, NO! IT CAN'T BE! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE BUT-- THAT GIRL OVER ON THE SIDEWALK IS--MY SWEETHEART ALANNA!
SORRY, OFFICER! I JUST SAW AN OLD FRIEND, I MUST SPEAK TO HER BEFORE SHE DISAPPEARS!
HEY? WHAT'S THAT?
OH, NO YOU DON'T! YOU COME BACK HERE! YOU GET THIS CAR TO A PARKING SPACE! I'LL NOT SEE YOU DISAPPEAR AGAIN BEFORE MY VERY EYES!
SECONDS LATER, FINGERS VISIBLY TREMBLING, ADAM DROPS A COIN IN A PARKING METER...
THERE, NOW! THAT'S MUCH BETTER!
ALANNA, WHERE ARE YOU?

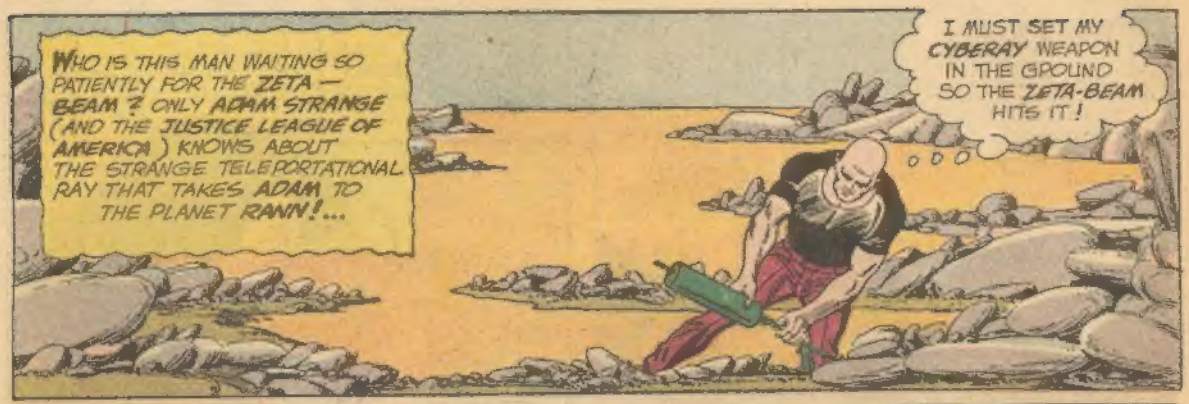

HIS CIVIC DUTY DONE, ADAM STRANGE RACES ACROSS THE THOROUGHFARE, IGNORING CARS AND THE HORNS OF IRATE MOTORISTS...
ALANNA! WAIT, ALANNA! WAIT!
HONK!
HONK!
AN INSTANT LATER, HE HAS CAUGHT UP WITH HER AND THROWS HIS ARMS ABOUT THE PRETTY PEDESTRIAN...
ALANNA, WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING HERE ON EARTH?
OHHHH!
HIS WELCOME IS HEARTFELT AND SINCERE...
YOU'D THINK HIS GIRL CAME A MILLION MILES TO SEE HIM!
YOU NEVER KISS ME LIKE THAT, DEAR!

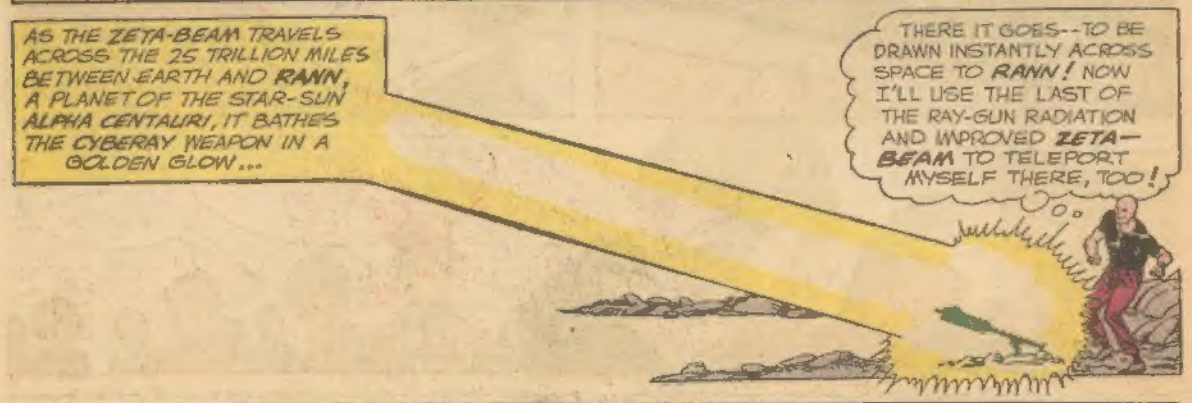
HOW DID YOU GET HERE? I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT WAS YOU--IN PERSON--UNTIL I KISSED YOU!
FATHER AND I FOUND A WAY TO DUPLICATE THE RAY-GUN RADIATION WHICH ONCE ENABLED ME TO BRING YOU TO RANN WITH OUR IMPROVED ZETA-BEAM.* INSTEAD OF BRINGING YOU TO ME--I CAME HERE!

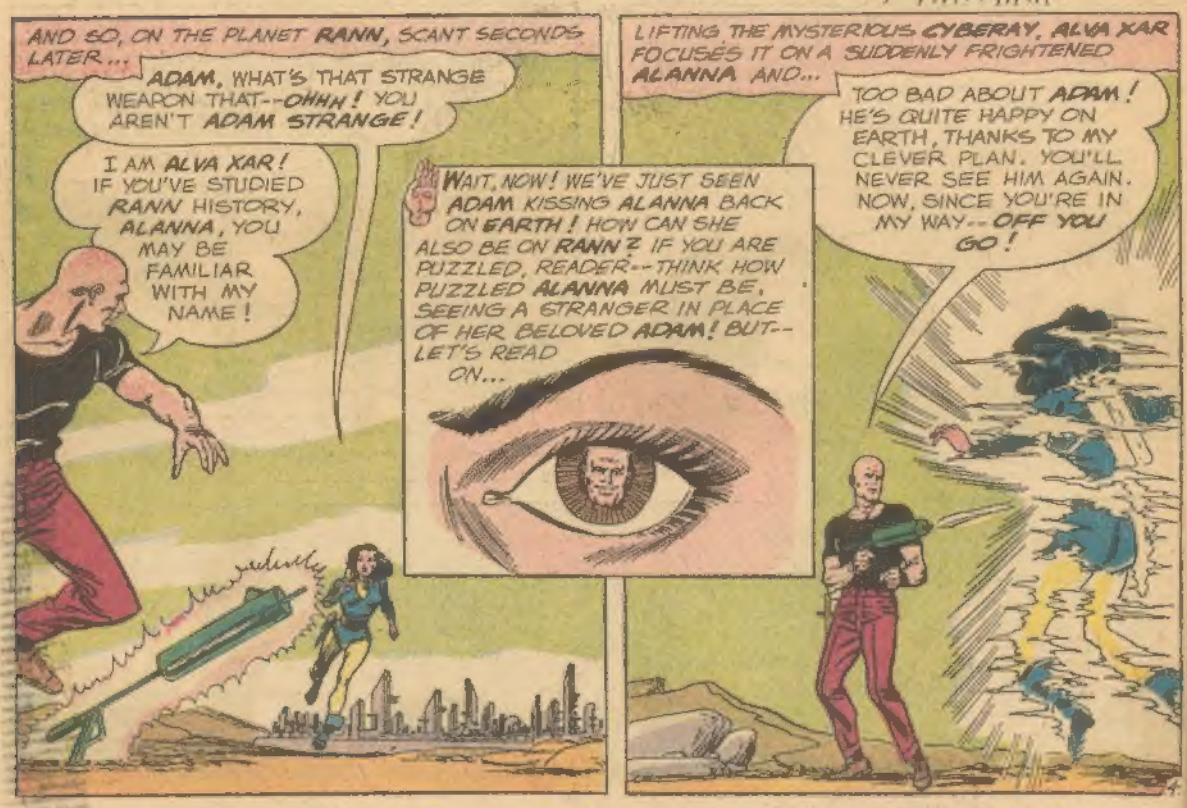
*Editor's Note: SEE "RAY-GUN IN THE SKY!"--MYSTERY IN SPACE #77

I'D PLANNED ON CONTACTING THE ZETA-BEAM DAY AFTER TOMORROW--BUT THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT NOW!
ADAM, I'M SO GLAD YOU TAUGHT ME YOUR LANGUAGE! I FEEL RIGHT AT HOME! NOW YOU CAN SHOW ME ALL THE SIGHTS ON YOUR NATIVE PLANET!

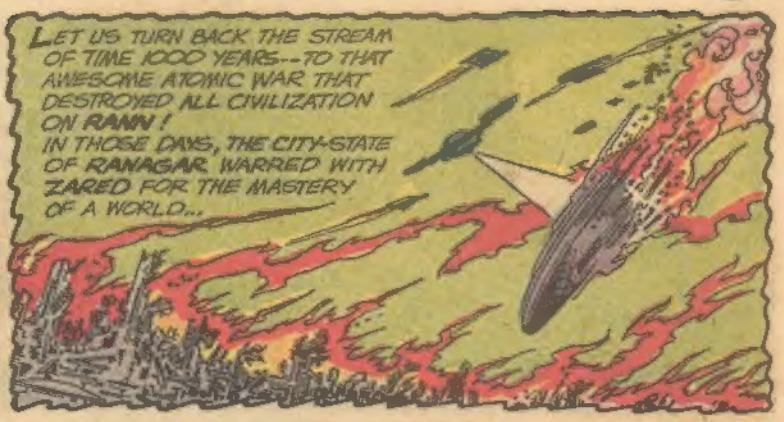
WHILE ADAM AND HIS RANN SWEETHEART, ALANNA OF RANAGAR, ARE SIGHTSEEING, TWO DAYS LATER ANOTHER FIGURE WAITS ON THE LITTLE CORAL ISLET NORTH OF AUSTRALIA WHERE THE ZETA-BEAM FROM RANN IS SOON TO STRIKE...

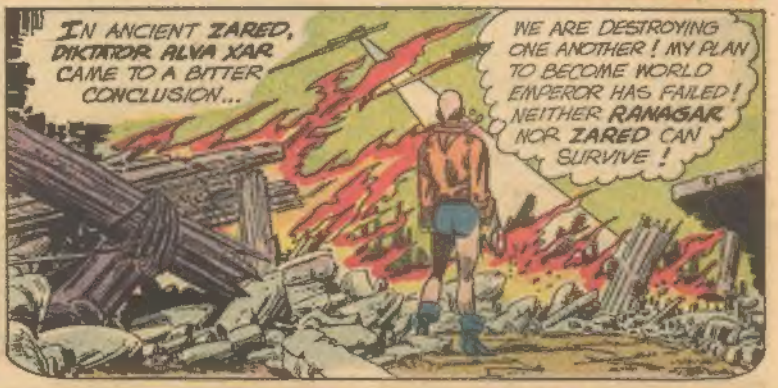

WHO IS THIS MAN WAITING SO PATIENTLY FOR THE ZETA—BEAM? ONLY ADAM STRANGE (AND THE JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA) KNOWS ABOUT THE STRANGE TELEPORTATIONAL RAY THAT TAKES ADAM TO THE PLANET RANN!...
I MUST SET MY CYBERAY WEAPON IN THE GROUND SO THE ZETA-BEAM HITS IT!

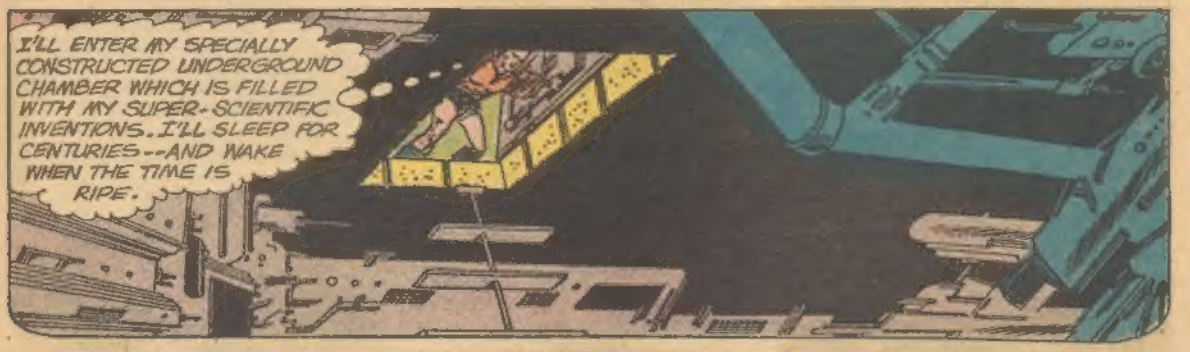

AS THE ZETA-BEAM TRAVELS ACROSS THE 25 TRILLION MILES BETWEEN EARTH AND RANN, A PLANET OF THE STAR-SUN ALPHA CENTAURI, IT BATHES THE CYBERAY WEAPON IN A GOLDEN GLOW...
THERE IT GOES--TO BE DRAWN INSTANTLY ACROSS SPACE TO RANN! NOW I'LL USE THE LAST OF THE RAY-GUN RADIATION AND IMPROVED ZETA—BEAM TO TELEPORT MYSELF THERE, TOO!

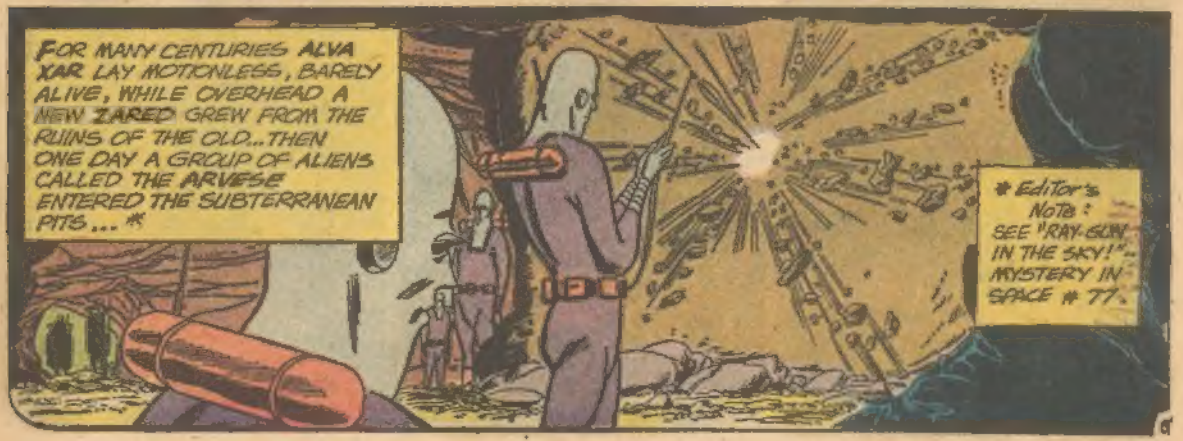

AND SO, ON THE PLANET RANN, SCANT SECONDS LATER...
ADAM, WHAT'S THAT STRANGE WEAPON THAT--OHHH! YOU AREN'T ADAM STRANGE!
I AM ALVA XAR! IF YOU'VE STUDIED RANN HISTORY, ALANNA, YOU MAY BE FAMILIAR WITH MY NAME!
WAIT, NOW! WE'VE JUST SEEN ADAM KISSING ALANNA BACK ON EARTH! HOW CAN SHE ALSO BE ON RANN? IF YOU ARE PUZZLED, READER--THINK HOW PUZZLED ALANNA MUST BE, SEEING A STRANGER IN PLACE OF HER BELOVED ADAM! BUT--LET'S READ ON...
LIFTING THE MYSTERIOUS CYBERAY, ALVA XAR FOCUSES IT ON A SUDDENLY FRIGHTENED ALANNA AND...
TOO BAD ABOUT ADAM! HE'S QUITE HAPPY ON EARTH, THANKS TO MY CLEVER PLAN. YOU'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN. NOW, SINCE YOU'RE IN MY WAY--OFF YOU GO!

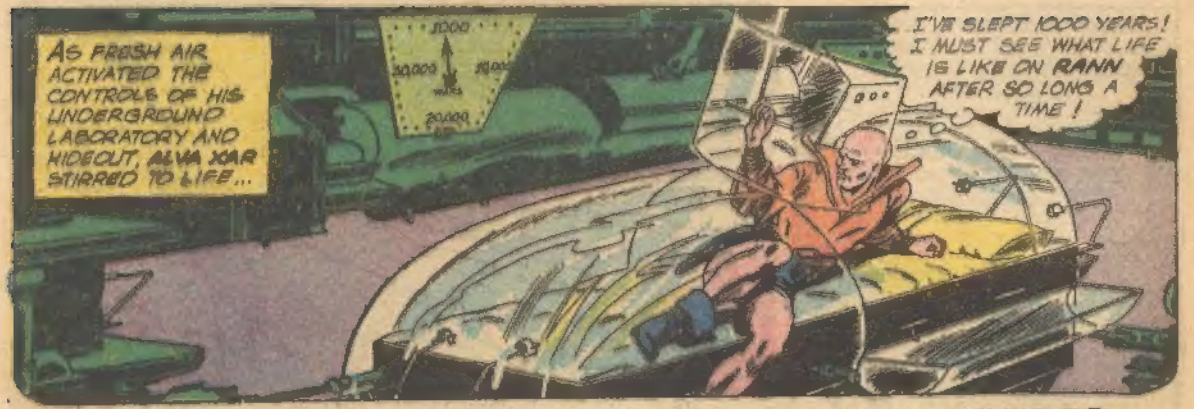
WITHIN A MOMENT, ALANNA IS GONE--AS ALVA XAR HURLS HIMSELF UPWARD INTO THE AIR...
NOW I CAN SET ABOUT TAKING OVER RANN! I'VE WAITED 10000 YEARS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY! THIS TIME--I WON'T FAIL AS I DID BEFORE!

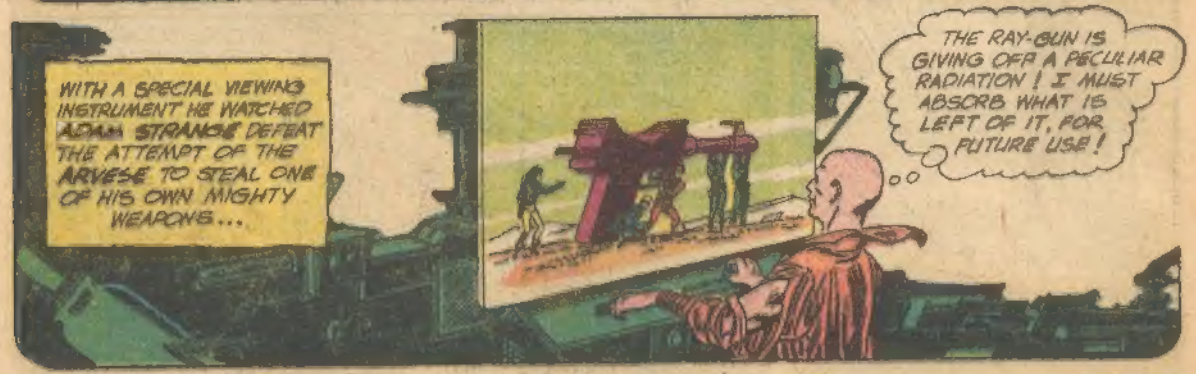

LET US TURN BACK THE STREAM OF TIME 1000 YEARS--TO THAT AWESOME ATOMIC WAR THAT DESTROYED ALL CIVILIZATION ON RANN! IN THOSE DAYS, THE CITY-STATE OF RANAGAR WARRED WITH ZARED FOR THE MASTERY OF A WORLD...


IN ANCIENT ZARED, DIKTATOR ALVA XAR CAME TO A BITTER CONCLUSION...
WE ARE DESTROYING ONE ANOTHER! MY PLAN TO BECOME WORLD EMPEROR HAS FAILED! NEITHER RANAGAR NOR ZARED CAN SURVIVE!


I'LL ENTER MY SPECIALLY CONSTRUCTED UNDERGROUND CHAMBER WHICH IS FILLED WITH MY SUPER-SCIENTIFIC INVENTIONS. I'LL SLEEP FOR CENTURIES--AND WAKE WHEN THE TIME IS RIPE.

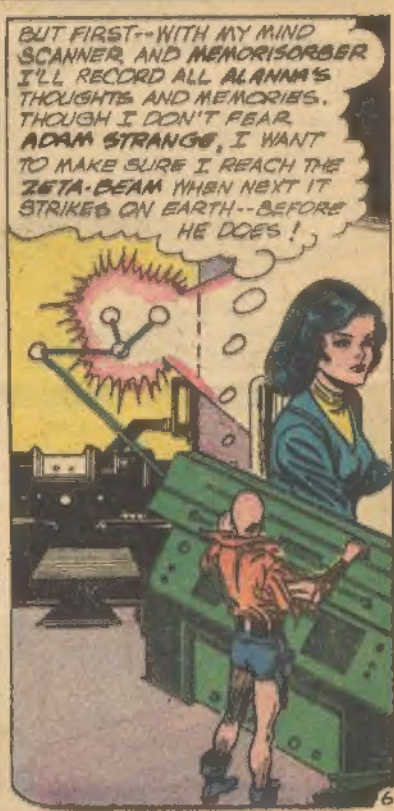

FOR MANY CENTURIES ALVA XAR LAY MOTIONLESS, BARELY ALIVE, WHILE OVERHEAD A NEW ZARED GREW FROM THE RUINS OF THE OLD...THEN ONE DAY A GROUP OF ALIENS CALLED THE ARVESE ENTERED THE SUBTERRANEAN PITS... *
* EDITOR'S NOTE: SEE "RAY-GUN IN THE SKY!"--MYSTERY IN SPACE # 77.


AS FRESH AIR ACTIVATED THE CONTROLS OF HIS UNDERGROUND LABORATORY AND HIDEOUT, ALVA XAR STIRRED TO LIFE...
I'VE SLEPT 1000 YEARS! I MUST SEE WHAT LIFE IS LIKE ON RANN AFTER SO LONG A TIME!

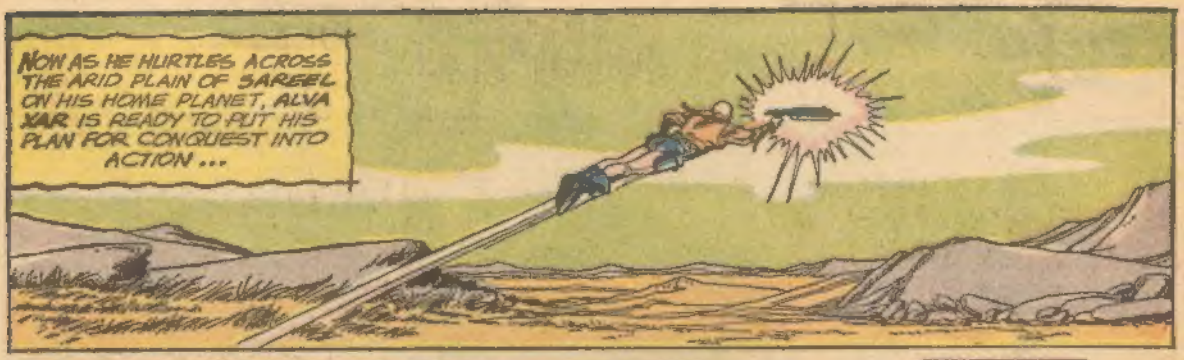

WITH A SPECIAL VIEWING INSTRUMENT HE WATCHED ADAM STRANGE DEFEAT THE ATTEMPT OF THE ARVESE TO STEAL ONE OF HIS OWN MIGHTY WEAPONS...
THE RAY-GUN IS GIVING OFF A PECULIAR RADIATION! I MUST ABSORB WHAT IS LEFT OF IT, FOR FUTURE USE!

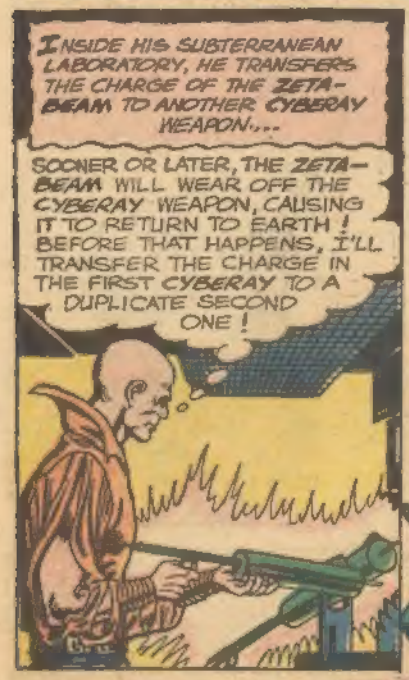
WITH ANOTHER INVENTION, HE SCANNED THE MIND OF ADAM STRANGE, LEARNING ALL ABOUT HIS JOURNEYS TO RANN ON THE WINGS OF THE ZETA-BEAM...
THE EARTHMAN WOULD MAKE A WORTHY OPPONENT--BUT AGAINST MY GENIUS HE'D BE ABSOLUTELY HELPLESS!

FOR SEVERAL DAYS ALVA XAR CAREFULLY LAID HIS PLANS...
THIS CYBERAY I'VE DEVISED WILL BE THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON EVER CONCEIVED BY THE MIND OF MAN. BUT TO MAKE IT FUNCTION--I HAVE TO GO TO THE PLANET EARTH!


BUT FIRST--WITH MY MIND SCANNER AND MEMORISORBER I'LL RECORD ALL ALANNA'S THOUGHTS AND MEMORIES. THOUGH I DON'T FEAR ADAM STRANGE, I WANT TO MAKE SURE I REACH THE ZETA-BEAM WHEN NEXT IT STRIKES ON EARTH--BEFORE HE DOES!

THIS BELT CONTAINS JUST ENOUGH RAY-GUN RADIATION AND ZETA-BEAM CHARGE TO ALLOW ME TO MAKE ONE ROUNDTRIP BETWEEN RANN AND EARTH! AFTER THAT, THE RAY-GUN RADIATION WILL BE EXHAUSTED! BUT ONE TRIP WILL BE ENOUGH FOR MY PURPOSE!
BY CHARGING THIS CYBERAY INVENTION OF MINE WITH THE ZETA-BEAM WHEN IT REACHES EARTH, IT WILL CREATE A SUPER-FORCE WHICH WILL ENABLE ME TO USE THE CYBERAY TO DO ANYTHING I WANT!
WITH THIS MENTISORBER I'LL FILL THE MIND OF SOME EARTH-GIRL WITH THE THOUGHTS AND MEMORIES OF ALANNA! SOMEWHERE ON EARTH THERE MUST EXIST A GIRL WHO LOOKS JUST LIKE HER! IN THAT WAY, I'LL CONTACT THE ZETA-BEAM INSTEAD OF ADAM STRANGE!
I'M NOT A BIT WORRIED ABOUT ADAM STRANGE COMING TO RANN AFTER THAT, BECAUSE BY THAT TIME I'LL HAVE A SURE-FIRE WAY OF STOPPING HIM. HE'LL NEVER OVERCOME ME THE WAY HE DID THOSE OTHER RANN MENACES!
TRAVELING TO EARTH VIA THE IMPROVED ZETA-BEAM, ALVA XAR SCANS THE PLANET FOR A DOUBLE OF ALANNA OF RANAGAR...
I'VE PUT ALANNA'S EXACT PROPORTIONS ON FILTA-TAPE! THE BEAM WHICH TRAVELS FROM THE TAPE TO THE WOMEN OF THIS WORLD WILL SCAN THEM BY THE THOUSANDS IN A FRACTION OF A SECOND!
AH, THERE SHE IS! NOW I'LL FILL HER MIND WITH ALANNA'S THOUGHTS AND MEMORIES, SO SHE'LL THINK SHE REALLY CAME FROM RANN TO EARTH! AFTER THAT--I'LL MAKE SURE ADAM SEES HER, THEN GET TO THE ZETA-BEAM!


NOW AS HE HURTLES ACROSS THE ARID PLAIN OF SAREEL ON HIS HOME PLANET, ALVA XAR IS READY TO PUT HIS PLAN FOR CONQUEST INTO ACTION ...


INSIDE HIS SUBTERRANEAN LABORATORY, HE TRANSFERS THE CHARGE OF THE ZETA-BEAM TO ANOTHER CYBERAY WEAPON....
SOONER OR LATER, THE ZETA-BEAM WILL WEAR OFF THE CYBERAY WEAPON, CAUSING IT TO RETURN TO EARTH! BEFORE THAT HAPPENS, I'LL TRANSFER THE CHARGE IN THE FIRST CYBERAY TO A DUPLICATE SECOND ONE!

I DON'T KNOW--AND I DON'T CARE--WHAT EFFECTS THE ORIGINAL CYBERAY WILL HAVE ON EARTH! ALL I'M CONCERNED ABOUT IS RANN! THIS CYBERAY WILL STAY WITH ME, FULLY CHARGED--AND WILL ENABLE ME TO BECOME COMPLETE MASTER OF RANN!

WHAT CAN ADAM STRANGE DO ABOUT THIS TERRIBLE THREAT TO RANN--WHICH HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW ABOUT? HE IS HAPPY WITH ALANNA ON EARTH--THAT IS, WITH SOME GIRL BOTH HE AND SHE THINK IS ALANNA!
AND WHATEVER HAPPENED TO ALANNA, BY THE WAY?

STORY CONTINUES ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING!

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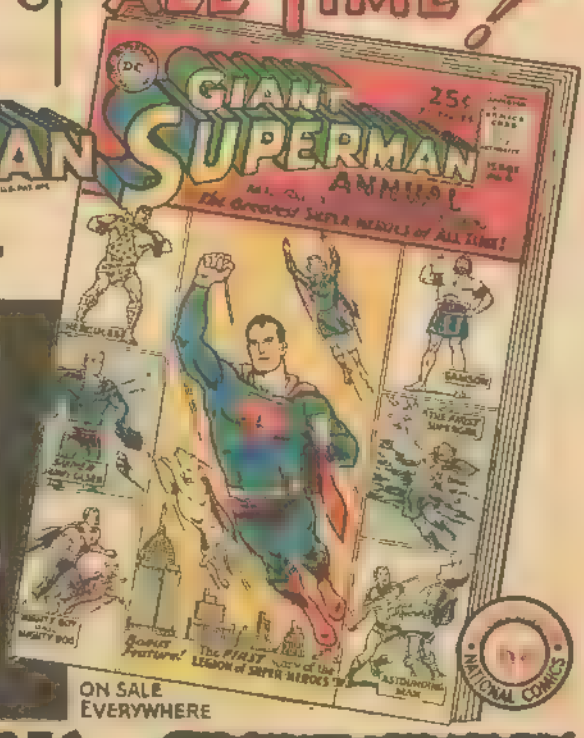

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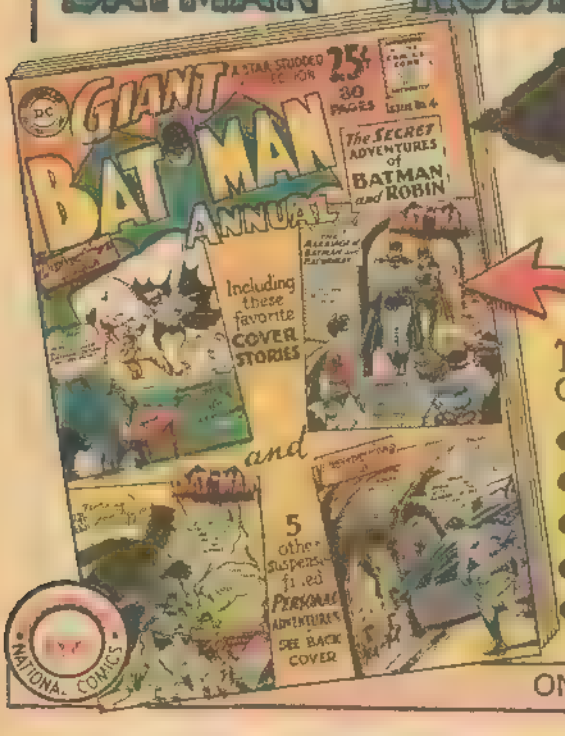

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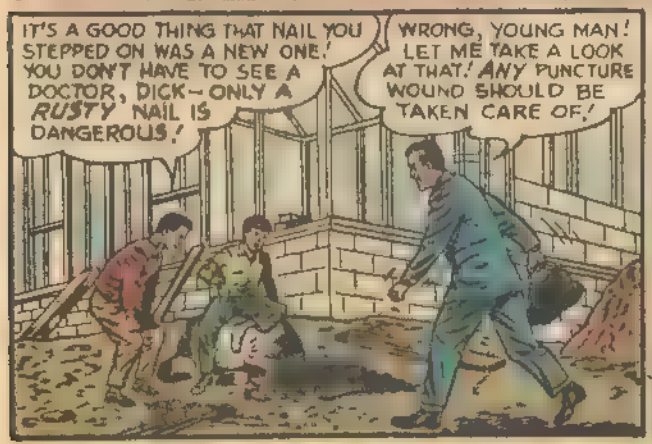
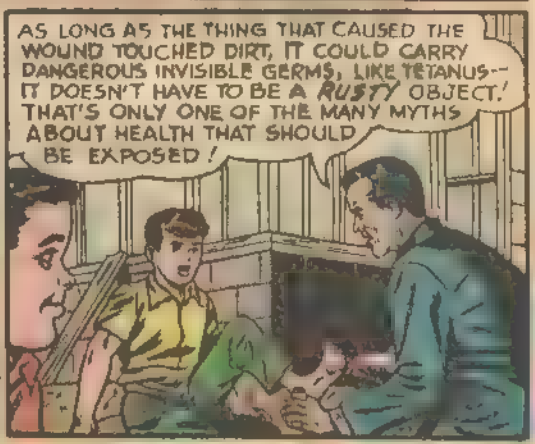
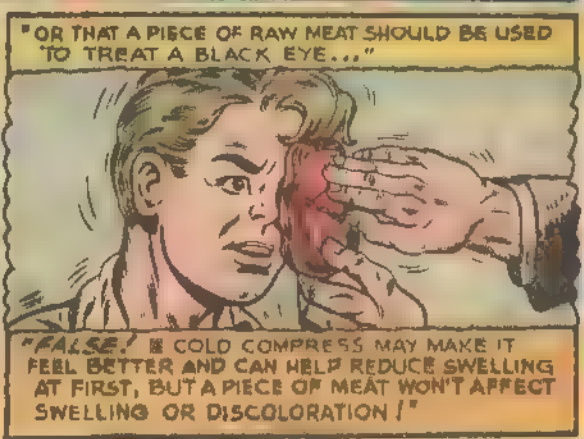
ON SALE EVERYWHERE

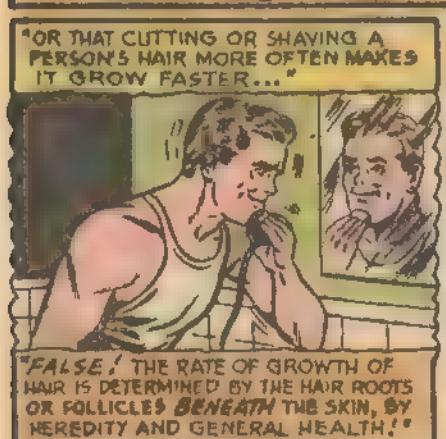
HEALTH MYTHS DEBUNKED!

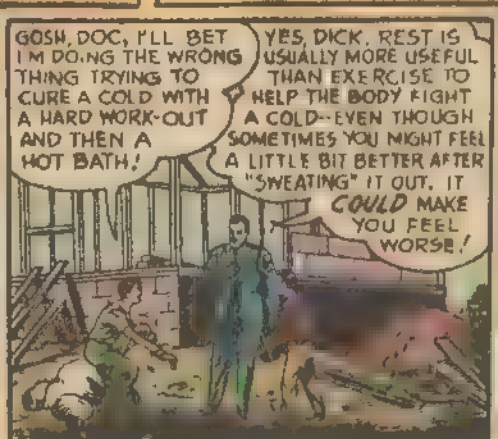

IT'S A GOOD THING THAT NAIL YOU STEPPED ON WAS A NEW ONE! YOU DON'T HAVE TO SEE A DOCTOR, DICK—ONLY A RUSTY NAIL IS DANGEROUS!
WRONG, YOUNG MAN! LET ME TAKE A LOOK AT THAT! ANY PUNCTURE WOUND SHOULD BE TAKEN CARE OF!

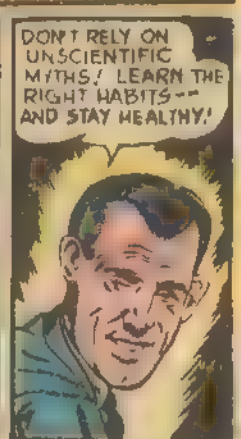

AS LONG AS THE THING THAT CAUSED THE WOUND TOUCHED DIRT, IT COULD CARRY DANGEROUS INVISIBLE GERMS, LIKE TETANUS—IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A RUSTY OBJECT! THAT'S ONLY ONE OF THE MANY MYTHS ABOUT HEALTH THAT SHOULD BE EXPOSED!

"MANY PEOPLE THINK THAT A GOOD WAY TO TREAT FROSTBITE IS TO RUB THE FROZEN PART WITH SNOW..."
"FALSE! GRADUAL WARMING IS NEEDED—BUT RUBBING WITH SNOW OR ANYTHING ELSE WOULD ONLY DAMAGE MORE TISSUE!"


"OR THAT A PIECE OF RAW MEAT SHOULD BE USED TO TREAT A BLACK EYE..."
"FALSE! A COLD COMPRESS MAY MAKE IT FEEL BETTER AND CAN HELP REDUCE SWELLING AT FIRST, BUT A PIECE OF MEAT WON'T AFFECT SWELLING OR DISCOLORATION!"


"OR THAT CUTTING OR SHAVING A PERSON'S HAIR MORE OFTEN MAKES IT GROW FASTER..."
"FALSE! THE RATE OF GROWTH OF HAIR IS DETERMINED BY THE HAIR ROOTS OR FOLLICLES BENEATH THE SKIN, BY HEREDITY AND GENERAL HEALTH!"


GOSH, DOC, I'LL BET I'M DOING THE WRONG THING TRYING TO CURE A COLD WITH A HARD WORK-OUT AND THEN A HOT BATH!
YES, DICK, REST IS USUALLY MORE USEFUL THAN EXERCISE TO HELP THE BODY FIGHT A COLD—EVEN THOUGH SOMETIMES YOU MIGHT FEEL A LITTLE BIT BETTER AFTER "SWEATING" IT OUT. IT COULD MAKE YOU FEEL WORSE!



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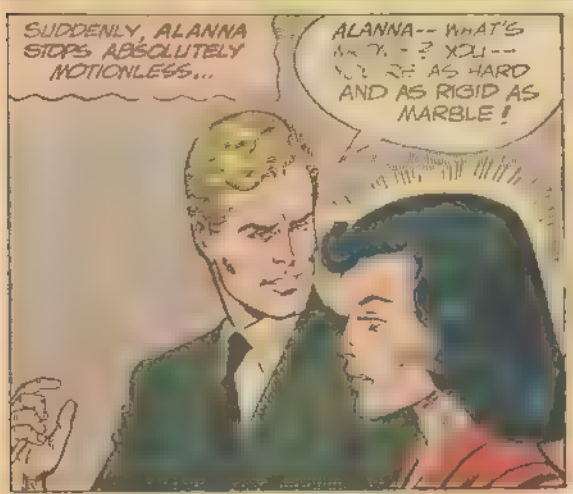
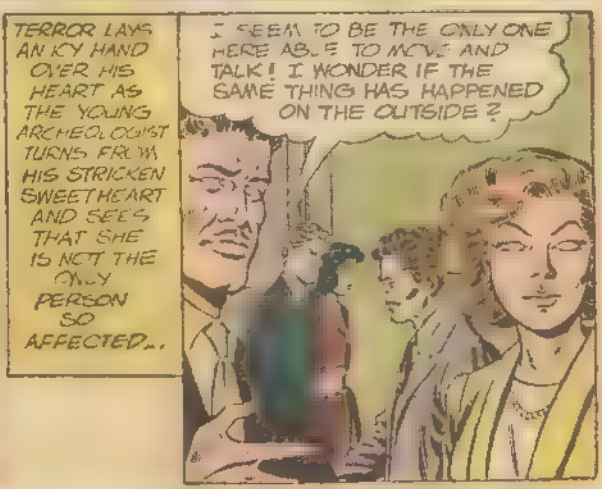
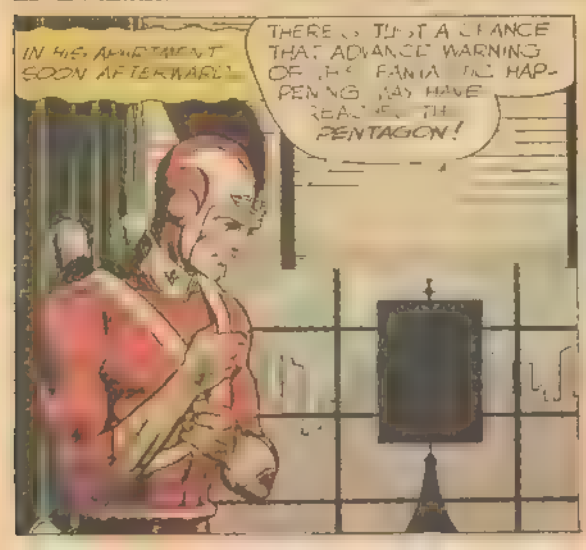
The CLOUD-CREATURE THAT MENACED TWO WORLDS!
CHAPTER 2
ON EARTH, AN UNSUSPECTING ADAM STRANGE ESCORTS A GIRL AT ALANNA ON A SIGHT-SEEING TOUR OF THE UNITED STATES. THEY TRAVEL SWIFTLY BY JET, FOR THERE IS MUCH TO SEE...
WE HAVE OUR OWN NATURAL WONDERS ON RANN--BUT I THINK THESE ARE MORE BREATH-TAKING! AND THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE--WE HAVE NO BRIDGES AT ALL!
I NEVER APPRECIATED THEM AS I DO SEE NOW THEM WITH YOU, HONEY!
OVER THE VAST PACIFIC OCEAN THEY FLY TO INDIA WHERE MOONLIGHT ON THE TAJ MAHAL ADDS TO THEIR ENJOYMENT OF ITS BEAUTY...
WE'LL GET MARRIED WHEN WE RETURN TO THE STATES. THERE'S NO NEED FOR US EVER TO GO BACK TO RANN... EXCEPT PERHAPS FOR AN OCCASIONAL VISIT.
FIRST THING WE HAVE TO DO BACK IN NEW YORK IS OPEN THE NEW ADAM STRANGE WING OF THE MUSEUM!
I SEE YOU'RE ALMOST AS FAMOUS ON EARTH AS YOU ARE ON MY HOME PLANET. I'M PROUD OF YOU, DARLING!

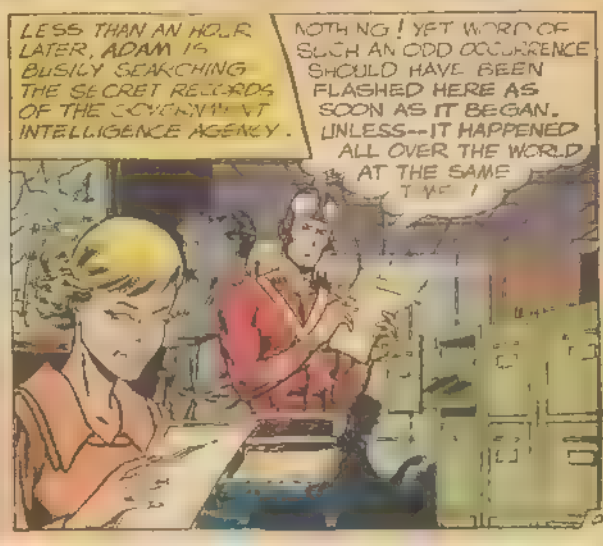
IN NEW YORK, MR. MYRL LATER
THE NEW WING IS JUST UP AHEAD. I'M SCHEDULED TO MAKE A LITTLE SPEECH BUT I HAVE TIME TO SHOW YOU AROUND FIRST!

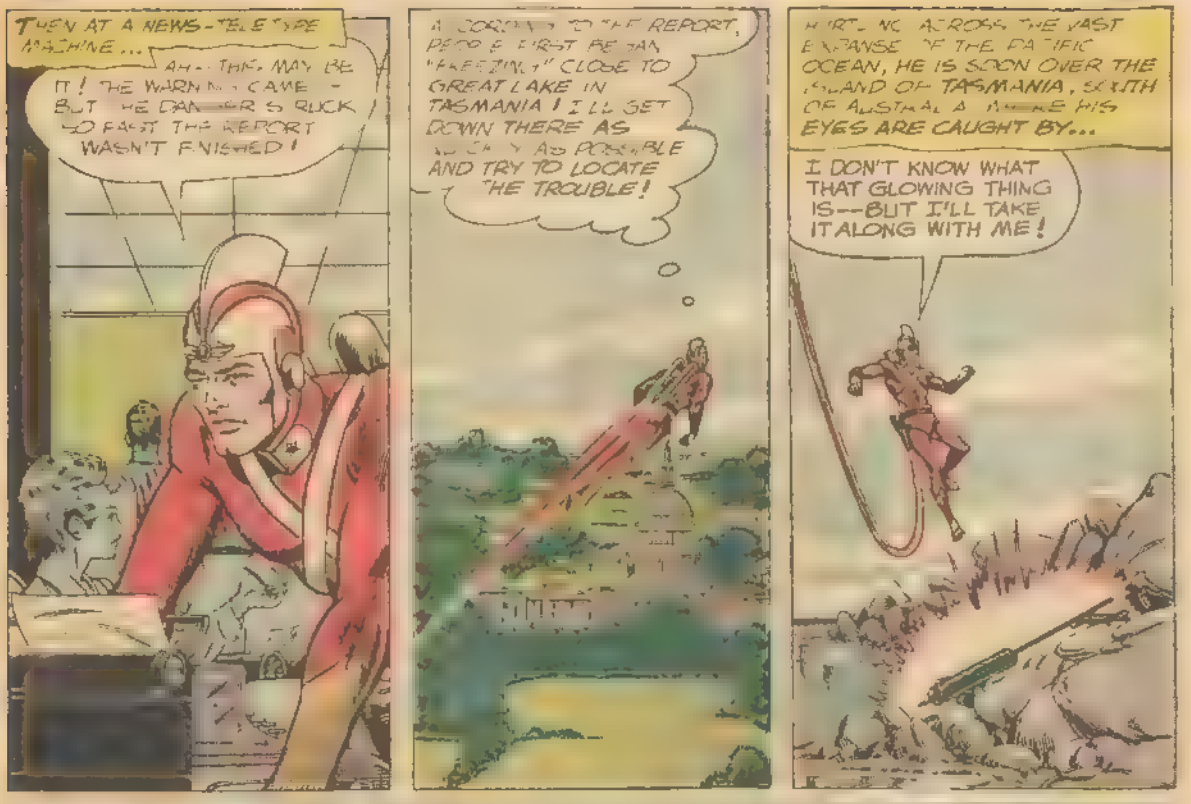

SUDDENLY, ALANNA STOPS ABSOLUTELY MOTIONLESS...
ALANNA-- WHAT'S WRONG? YOU-- YOU'RE AS HARD AND AS RIGID AS MARBLE!

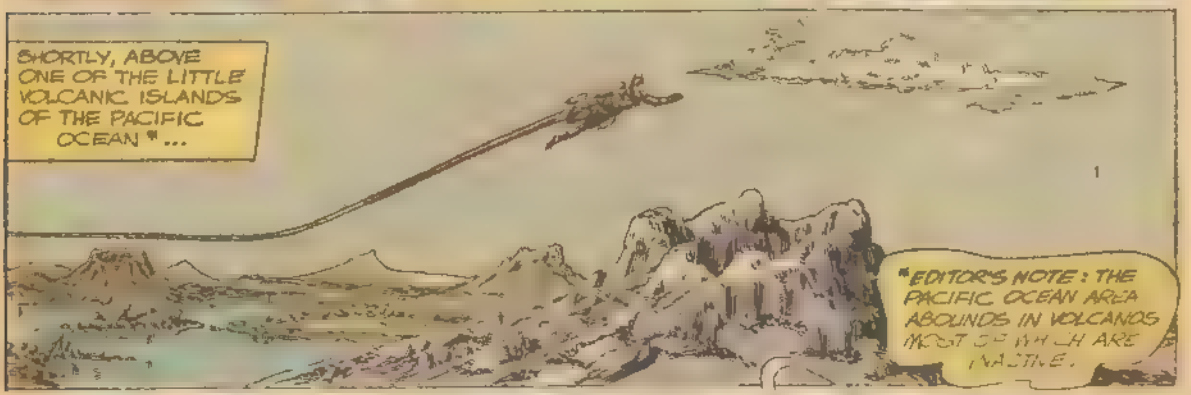

TERROR LAYS AN ICY HAND OVER HIS HEART AS THE YOUNG ARCHEOLOGIST TURNS FROM HIS STRICKEN SWEETHEART AND SEES THAT SHE IS NOT THE ONLY PERSON SO AFFECTED...
I SEEM TO BE THE ONLY ONE HERE ABLE TO MOVE AND TALK! I WONDER IF THE SAME THING HAS HAPPENED ON THE OUTSIDE?

FURTHER TESTS DISCLOSE THAT EVERYONE IN THE CITY HAS BEEN FROZEN IN POSITION...
I'VE GOT TO GET TO MY APARTMENT-- DON MY RANN GARB--AND SEE WHAT I CAN LEARN ABOUT THIS DISASTER!


IN HIS APARTMENT SOON AFTERWARD...
THERE'S JUST A CHANCE THAT ADVANCE WARNING OF THE FANTASTIC HAPPENING MAY HAVE REACHED THE PENTAGON!


LESS THAN AN HOUR LATER, ADAM IS BUSILY SEARCHING THE SECRET RECORDS OF THE GOVERNMENT INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.
NOTHING! YET WORD OF SUCH AN ODD OCCURRENCE SHOULD HAVE BEEN FLASHED HERE AS SOON AS IT BEGAN. UNLESS--IT HAPPENED ALL OVER THE WORLD AT THE SAME TIME!


THEN AT A NEWS-TELETYPE MACHINE...
AH--THIS MAY BE IT! THE WARNING CAME--BUT THE DANGER STRUCK SO FAST THE REPORT WASN'T FINISHED!
A SECOND TO THAT REPORT, PERCE FIRST BEGAN "FREEZING" CLOSE TO GREAT LAKE IN TASMANIA! I'LL GET DOWN THERE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AND TRY TO LOCATE THE TROUBLE!
HURTLING ACROSS THE VAST EXPANSE OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN, HE IS SOON OVER THE ISLAND OF TASMANIA, SOUTH OF AUSTRALIA WHERE HIS EYES ARE CAUGHT BY...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT GLOWING THING IS--BUT I'LL TAKE IT ALONG WITH ME!


SHORTLY, ABOVE ONE OF THE LITTLE VOLCANIC ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN"...
"EDITOR'S NOTE: THE PACIFIC OCEAN AREA ABOUNDS IN VOLCANOS MOST OF WHICH ARE INACTIVE.

A QUEER CLOUD FORMATION STIRS--REACHES OUT WITH BREATH-TAKING SPEED AND...

DAZED BY THAT TERRIFEROUS BLOW, ADAM DROPS LIKE A PLUMMET INTO THE MAW OF A VOLCANO...

RASH CREATURE! ALL LIFE ON THIS WORLD IS SUSPENDED IN TIME! ONLY YOU DARED CHALLENGE MY SOLITARY RULE!

FAR BELOW THE FALLING ADAM, THE EARTH'S CRUST CRUMBLES UNDER THE IMMENSE HEAT IN GREAT MOLTEN SPOTS. THE EARTH'S CRUST SPLITS AND ITS HOT LIQUIDS REACT BY RISING...

WITH A CRUNCHING OF STONE AND A GIGANTIC SHUDDER, THE VOLCANO BREAKS IN A GREAT STEAMING MAGMA-FILLED CAVERN AND SENDING SCORES OF LAVA SKYWARD.

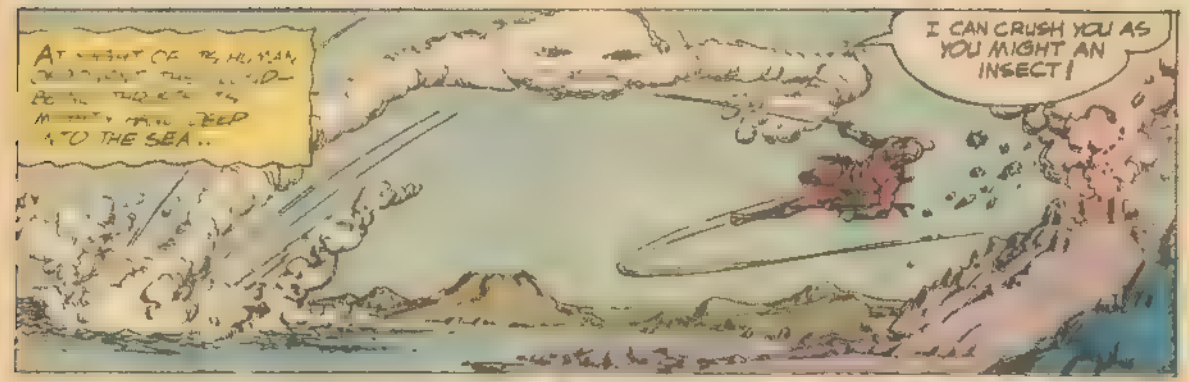
OHHH-- WHERE AM I? WHA--WHAT ARE THOSE FIERY CHUNKS?

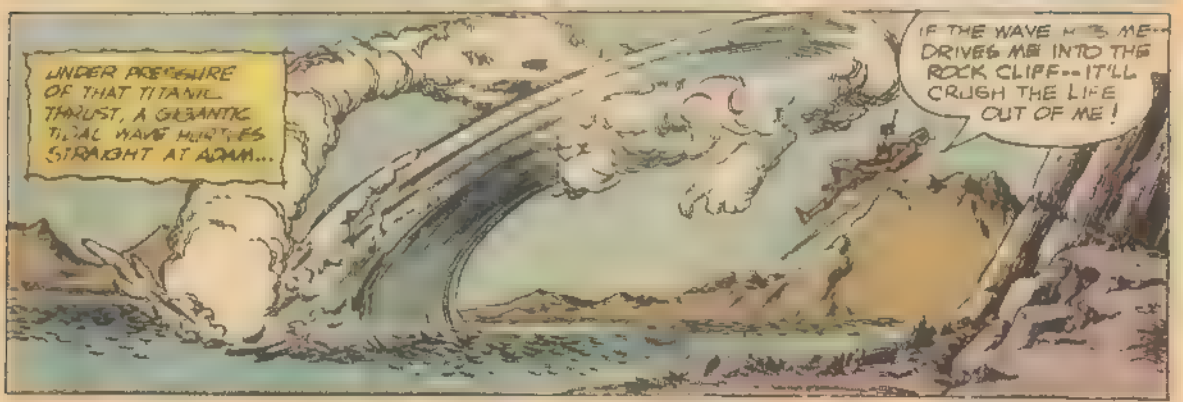
UNDERSTANDING OF HIS DANGER DRIVES HIS HAND TOWARD HIS JET CONTROLS..

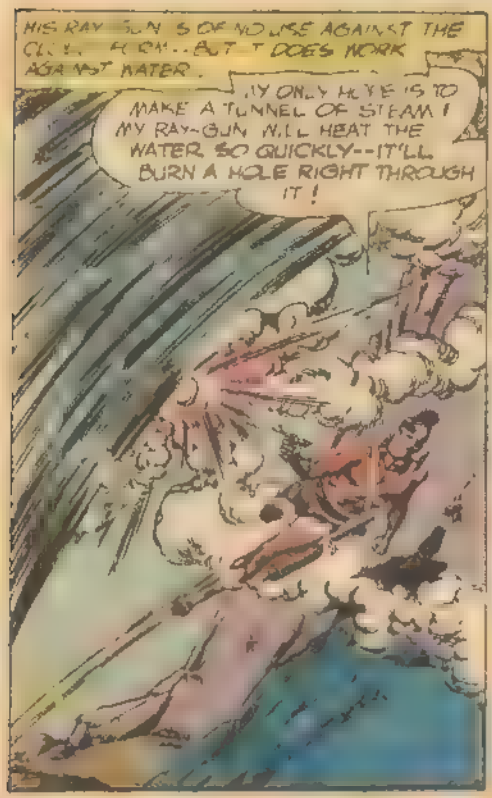
CAN I MAKE IT? OR WILL THE LAVA ENGULF ME BEFORE MY JETS GET ME INTO THE OPEN AIR?

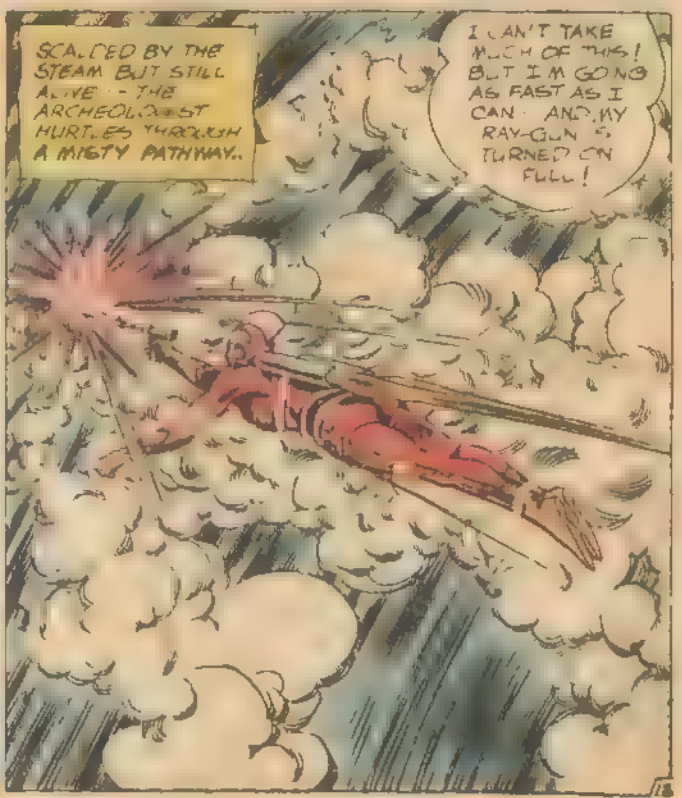
HIS JETS THROBBING WITH POWER, ADAM STRANGE RISES OUT OF THE ERUPTING CRATER SECONDS BEFORE THE AIR FILLS WITH HOT ASHES AND BURNING LAVA..

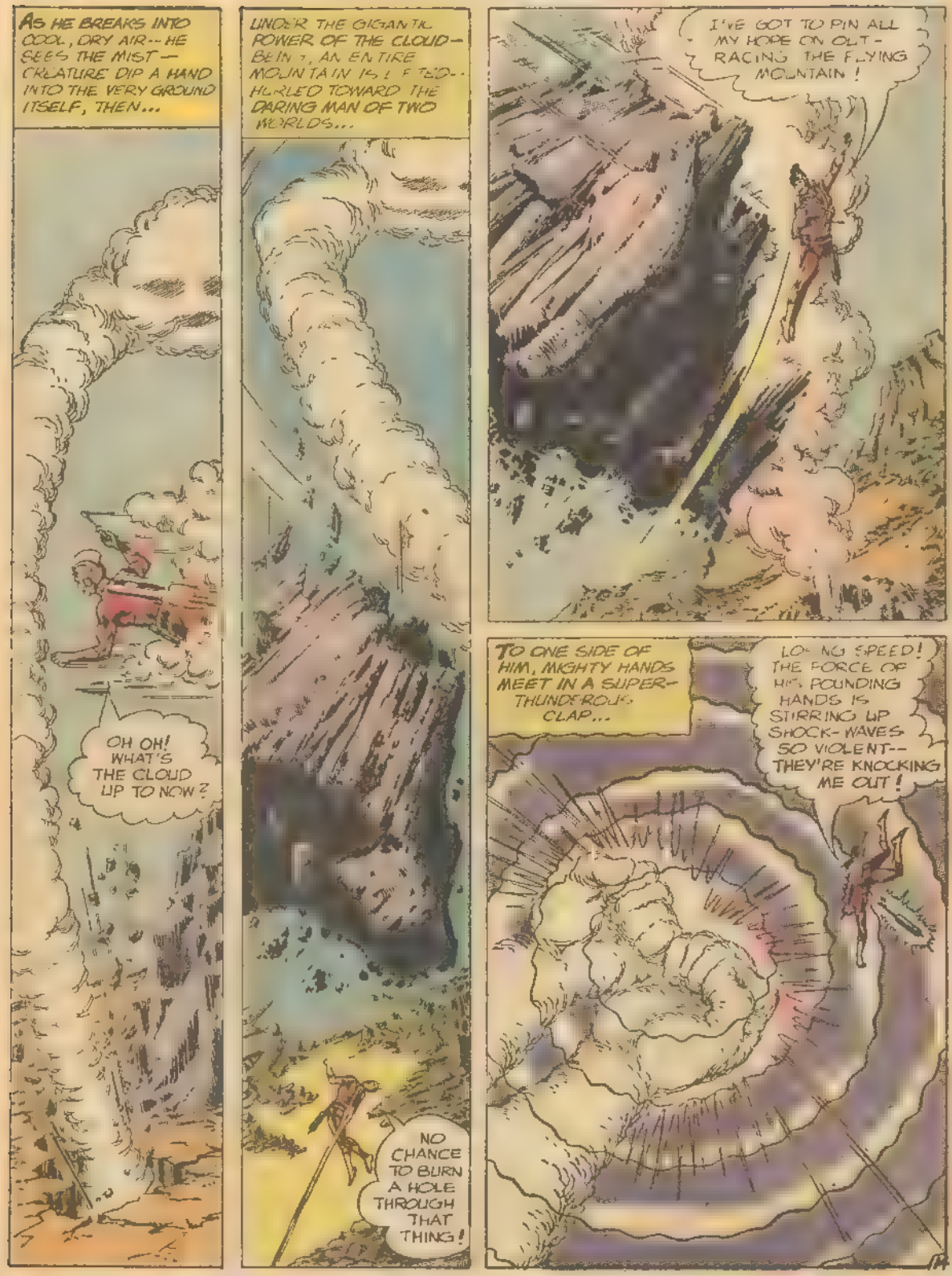
I'VE GOT TO TAKE MY CHANCES WITH THAT CLOUD-CREATURE -- ALTHOUGH I HAVE THE FEELING THAT MY RAY-GUN WON'T BE ANY HELP TO ME!

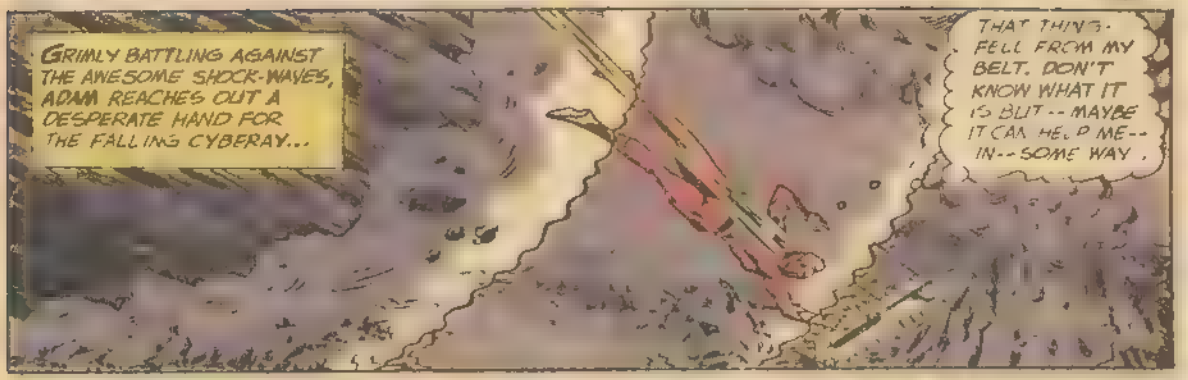

I CAN CRUSH YOU AS YOU MIGHT AN INSECT!

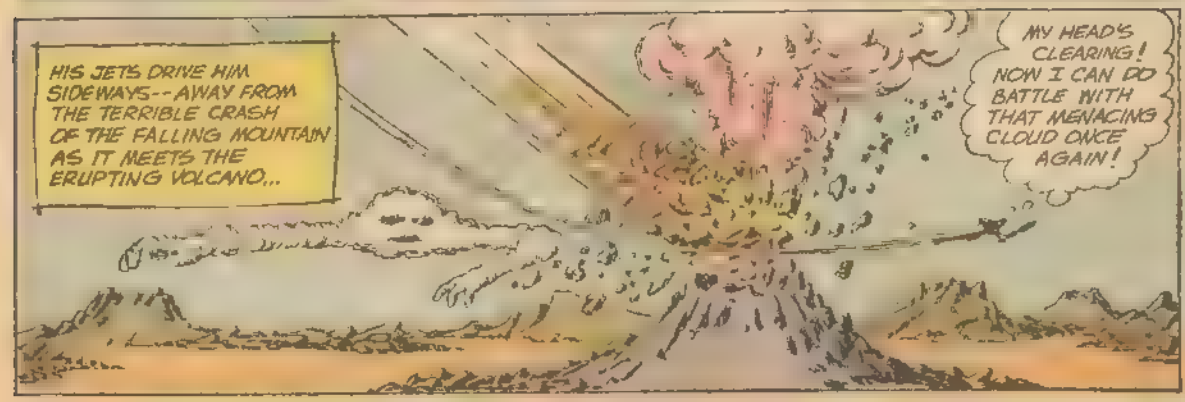

UNDER PRESSURE OF THAT TITANIC THRUST, A GIGANTIC TIDAL WAVE HURTLES STRAIGHT AT ADAM...
IF THE WAVE HITS ME--DRIVES ME INTO THE ROCK CLIFF--IT'LL CRUSH THE LIFE OUT OF ME!


HIS RAY-GUN IS OF NO USE AGAINST THE CLIFF FROM--BUT IT DOES WORK AGAINST WATER.
MY ONLY HOPE IS TO MAKE A TUNNEL OF STEAM! MY RAY-GUN WILL HEAT THE WATER SO QUICKLY--IT'LL BURN A HOLE RIGHT THROUGH IT!


SCALDED BY THE STEAM BUT STILL ALIVE--THE ARCHEOLOGIST HURTLES THROUGH A MISTY PATHWAY..
I CAN'T TAKE MUCH OF THIS! BUT I'M GOING AS FAST AS I CAN--AND MY RAY-GUN IS TURNED ON FULL!


AS HE BREAKS INTO COOL, DRY AIR--HE SEES THE MIST--CREATURE DIP A HAND INTO THE VERY GROUND ITSELF, THEN...
OH OH! WHAT'S THE CLOUD UP TO NOW?
UNDER THE GIGANTIC POWER OF THE CLOUD-BEING, AN ENTIRE MOUNTAIN IS LIFTED--HURLED TOWARD THE DARING MAN OF TWO WORLDS...
NO CHANCE TO BURN A HOLE THROUGH THAT THING!
I'VE GOT TO PIN ALL MY HOPE ON OUT-RACING THE FLYING MOUNTAIN!
TO ONE SIDE OF HIM, MIGHTY HANDS MEET IN A SUPER-THUNEROUS CLAP...
LO! NO SPEED! THE FORCE OF HIS POUNDING HANDS IS STIRRING UP SHOCK-WAVES SO VIOLENT--THEY'RE KNOCKING ME OUT!


GRIMLY BATTLING AGAINST THE AWESOME SHOCK-WAVES, ADAM REACHES OUT A DESPERATE HAND FOR THE FALLING CYBERAY...
THAT THING - FELL FROM MY BELT. DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS BUT -- MAYBE IT CAN HELP ME -- IN -- SOME WAY.

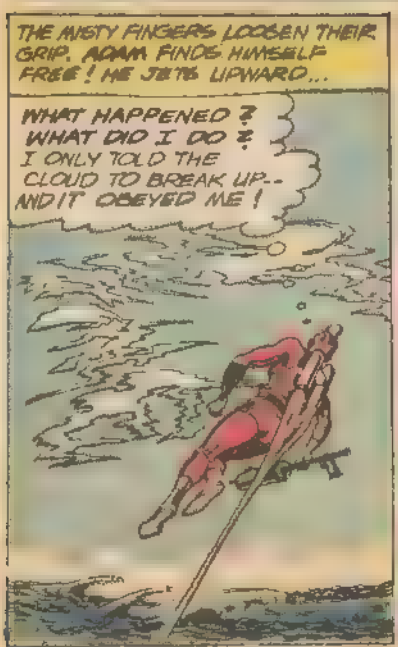

HIS JETS DRIVE HIM SIDEWAYS -- AWAY FROM THE TERRIBLE CRASH OF THE FALLING MOUNTAIN AS IT MEETS THE ERUPTING VOLCANO...
MY HEAD'S CLEARING! NOW I CAN DO BATTLE WITH THAT MENACING CLOUD ONCE AGAIN!

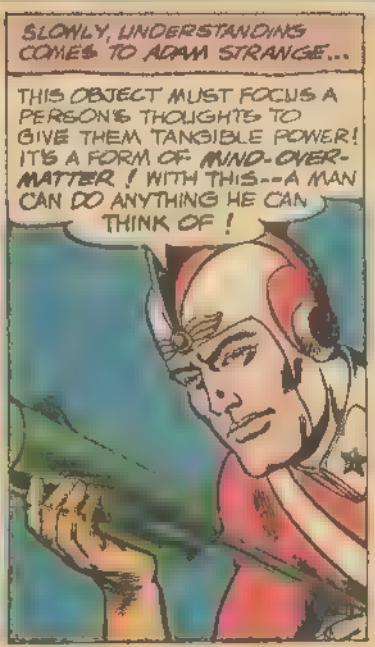
IN A BACKWASH OF QUIET AIR, HE MOVES THE CONTROLS OF THE CYBERAY -- BUT WITH HIS ATTENTION FOCUSED ON THE ODD WEAPON HE DOES NOT SEE...
THERE'S NO "FIRING TRIGGER" ON IT! BUT IT MUST DO SOMETHING!

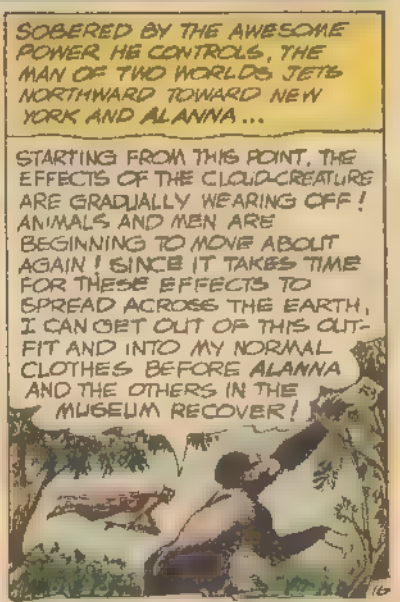
MIGHTY FINGERS TIGHTEN ON THE ARCHEOLOGIST -- HOLD HIM FIRMLY...
I'LL TELL YOU WHAT IT DOES. IT MADE ME! I EVOLVED FROM THE RAW POWER IT CONTAINS! AND I FEED ON TIME ITSELF!

SQUEEZED SO TIGHTLY, HIS SENSES REEL, ADAM IS BUOYED BY ONE THOUGHT...
THE HAND -- GOING TO PUSH ME INTO THE OCEAN -- HOLD ME THERE. BUT I CAN'T LET IT HAPPEN! EVERYONE ON EARTH BUT ME HELPLESS! EVEN ALANNA! GOT TO STOP THIS THING SOMEHOW...

THEN WITH HIS BACK TO THE COLD WATERS OF THE PACIFIC, HE SHOUTS ALOUD IN ANGRY DESPERATION...
EARTH WILL BE A PLANET OF PEOPLE IN ETERNAL SUSPENDED ANIMATION UNLESS--OHH, BREAK UP! DISAPPEAR!


THE MISTY FINGERS LOOSEN THEIR GRIP. ADAM FINDS HIMSELF FREE! HE JETS UPWARD...
WHAT HAPPENED? WHAT DID I DO? I ONLY TOLD THE CLOUD TO BREAK UP-- AND IT OBEYED ME!


SLOWLY, UNDERSTANDING COMES TO ADAM STRANGE...
THIS OBJECT MUST FOCUS A PERSON'S THOUGHTS TO GIVE THEM TANGIBLE POWER! IT'S A FORM OF MIND-OVER-MATTER! WITH THIS--A MAN CAN DO ANYTHING HE CAN THINK OF!


SOBERED BY THE AWESOME POWER HE CONTROLS, THE MAN OF TWO WORLDS JETS NORTHWARD TOWARD NEW YORK AND ALANNA...
STARTING FROM THIS POINT, THE EFFECTS OF THE CLOUD-CREATURE ARE GRADUALLY WEARING OFF! ANIMALS AND MEN ARE BEGINNING TO MOVE ABOUT AGAIN! SINCE IT TAKES TIME FOR THESE EFFECTS TO SPREAD ACROSS THE EARTH, I CAN GET OUT OF THIS OUTFIT AND INTO MY NORMAL CLOTHES BEFORE ALANNA AND THE OTHERS IN THE MUSEUM RECOVER!

STORY CONTINUED ON 4 1/2 PAGE FOLLOWING!

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WONDERS OF SPACE

Dear Editor: Most people ask why *Adam Strange* is so great. I think I know. He has some qualities that no other comic has, such as:

Art, which is superb compared to any other comic on the market. Artist Carmine Infantino does a great job.

Daring, which *Adam* is because after all those harrowing adventures he would have to be love-sick to go back to *Alanna* and *Rann*.

Alanna, and her courage and love. She is not always nagging *Adam* but helps him. She does not try to win his heart because she already has it.

Mystery in Space is a great comic by itself, but *Adam Strange* adds much to it.

Stories are magnificent.

Travel, the way *Adam Strange* travels from *Earth* to *Rann* is the most original thing I have seen in comics.

Rann is a realistic planet.

Adam Strange is a smart and quick-thinking man.

Nicely organized, is *Mystery in Space*, and it has a great letter column.

Great, except that I'd like to see *Adam* in more night scenes.

Economic, because 12c is very cheap for a great comic with such excellent art and writing.

Richard Kaufman,
259 S. King St., Elmont, N. Y.

(Your "Strange" acrostic wins for you the original Adam Strange *artwork on "Shadow People of the Eclipse!"*—Editor)

* * *

Dear Editor: The September issue of *Mystery in Space* is a perfect example of the ace you scored when you doubled the length of the *Adam Strange* stories. Look at "Shadow People of the Eclipse"—you gave us plenty of background and sub-plots, and *Adam* didn't win right away. When he finally did solve the problem, it was sheer genius.

Adam is fast becoming my favorite DC character! His stories are realistic and human. His romance with *Alanna* is the most believeable, outside of *The Atom*, in any comic. As I hinted in a previous letter, I would like a story in which *Adam* arrives on *Rann*, only to find *Alanna* missing. His search for *Alanna* could comprise the bulk of the story, and many interesting situations could develop.

"Gateways to the Stars" was an excellent filler for the rest of the magazine, the idea of T-Gates being most ingenious. The bewilderment of the space-explorers as they first discovered the T-Gate, and how they found out what it was, certainly disproves *any* reader who thinks that *MIS* gives the idea that man is superior to nature (what corn!). Sid Greene's artwork was exceptional, as his usually is.

Paul Gambaccini,
8 Elizabeth Dr., Westport, Conn.

(If double the length of an Adam Strange *story doubles your pleasure—you're in for a double-double treat with the four-part* AS *novel in this issue! Your appreciation of Sid Greene's artwork will be enhanced when you receive his original drawings for "Gateway to the Stars!"*—Editor)

* * *

Dear Editor: In a recent issue David Smith asked how Paul Seydor can tell art technique and who the inker is. For myself this is easy. Here are some secrets: Look at the eyes. Most artists will always draw eyes one way. Look for ears for the same reason. A very important factor is chins and hair styles. For the inkers you must know the artists' own techniques. Murphy Anderson, for example, has a tendency to draw chins coming out a little and a small cleft in it. He also gets characters to look youngish. His eyes are quite definite also.

Carmine Infantino draws the head to fit the neck to the waist about one and one-half times instead of two heads. He draws futuristic buildings alike also. Once you know the Infantino and Anderson techniques you can see when one artist inks the other.

Marvin Wolfman,
142-18 59th Ave., Flushing 55, N. Y.

(It's an art in itself to develop a technique for spotting different art-styles.—Editor)

* * *

Dear Editor: It's the touches of *Rann* home-life that gets us girls! Now what nicer compliment could any guy give his girl friend than "that she's the best cook in two worlds"?—as per your fitting conclusion to "Shadow People of the Eclipse." So hurray for *Alanna's* culinary skill!

She can handle a Ranagarian quail or an invader (or *Adam Strange*) with a poise that makes earthgals green!

Kathlyn Lucas, Box 564,
540 Ponte Vedra Blvd.,
Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

(Yes, Adam's *sure a lucky guy! Imagine having a gal who cooks as good as she looks!*—Editor)

* * *

Dear Editor: I'd like to hand out compliments for the September issue of *Mystery in Space*. It featured one of the most impressive covers I've ever seen on *MIS* (since *Adam Strange* became the top attraction, that is. Some of the pre-number 53 issues can't be matched, period).

The cover has everything—action, balance, appeal, mystery, and even good background art which all combine to make it a most attractive piece of work.

"Shadow People of the Eclipse" was also well done. I personally would prefer to see more domestic menaces. I mean, every single issue, almost without pause, we have had *Adam Strange* battling the evil-aliens-who-want-*Rann*. I'm certain that in all this turmoil and fighting, the entire population of *Rann* can't be patriotic and law-abiding. There must be a few rotten apples in the bunch somewhere, a few traitors, a few blackguards who feel that good ol' lust for power and loot. A domestic villain armed with a unique super-weapon would add variety to the plots, I believe.

Register my vote against the new hair-do *Alanna* has adopted. It is discouragingly weird-looking. For many issues now I've been accustomed to seeing *Alanna* looking like the typical science-fiction comic heroine, longish blue-black hair, pert facial features, delightful figure, etc. This new hair arrangement doesn't look right. I've become set and tired in the ways of tradition and tradition says *Alanna* should have long hair, set in typical, expected hair arrangement.

Robert Jennings,
3819 Chambers Dr., Nashville 11, Tenn.

(To settle the negative portion of your letter, Alanna *sports a different hair-do in this issue's story, which we trust will have more eye-appeal. As for a domestic-type villain, the story slated for the next issue will introduce a native-born* Rann *blackguard of blackguards—who condescendingly allows the people of* Rann *to live only as long as he lives! When he goes—whether by design, accident, or old age—*Rann *goes too! As for your positive reaction to the "Shadow People of the Eclipse" cover, it's earned for you a reward of the original cover!*—Editor)

* * *

Dear Editor: It really amazes me from issue to issue on the many unique titles which are always being dreamed-up by author Gardner Fox to "label" his *Adam Strange* stories! His titles not only serve the obvious purpose of naming an adventure "for the records," but they also serve to introduce an overall mood of a story which is nearly always representative in its title.

Exciting titles like "Space Island of Peril" and "The Fadeaway Doom" never seem dull, add to the suspense of aroused reader interest, and make for a shrewd way of advertising a story.

Since we're on the title kick, here are some gag "story reviews" of past *Adam Strange* adventures. . .

"The Weapon that Swallowed Men": couldn't *stomach it!*

"Challenge of the Giant Butterflies": too many *bugs* in the plot!

"Menace of the Aqua-Ray Weapon": a *drippy* story which was all *wet!*

"Beast with the Sizzling Blue Eyes": couldn't be *cornea!*

"Challenge of the Crystal Conquerors": a story with *sparkle!*

"Shadow People of the Eclipse": the writer must have been in the *dark!*

Stanley Chan,
801 W. 95 Street, Los Angeles 44, Cal.

(Next issue's Adam Strange *thriller has the provocative working title of "World War on Earth —and Rann!" Can any of you readers predict what this is going to be about?*—Editor)

* * *

Dear Editor: So far in 1962, *Adam Strange* has out-done any other DC hero in the field. He has had the best book-length novel ("Planet that Came to a Standstill")—possibly the greatest one in comic book history; and the best 15-pager, "Shadow People of the Eclipse!"

To write a story like "Shadow People of the Eclipse," Gardner Fox must be a genius. Only a genius could put out stories like this regularly and repeatedly.

"Shadow People of the Eclipse" was a great story, featuring a one-eyed Cyclops and more run-away action than a horse-race!

The Cyclops and Vantors were drawn beautifully and more important *humanly*, yet still retaining an alien personality and quality!

I think art is at least 50% of any comic book. And man, oh man . . . what a team Infantino and Anderson are! They pencil and ink so well that it makes you feel *Adam* and *Alanna* are photographs of real people! They are the most popular art team in comics, and certainly the most talented.

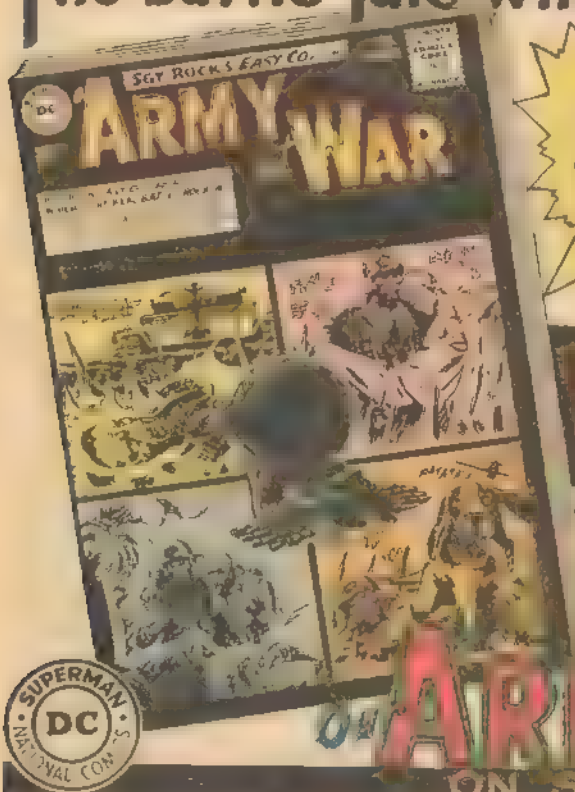
Harold Smith,
2816 Banks St., New Orleans 19, La.

(Among the things we can count on being certain in this uncertain world is a long, comprehensive letter from Harold Smith, analyzing each issue of Mystery in Space *shortly after it hits the stands. While they haven't all seen print, this (editorially curtailed) letter is a sample—and wins for him Gardner Fox's manuscript for "Shadow People of the Eclipse!"*—Editor)

—

Address letters to this department to WONDERS OF SPACE, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

The Battle Tale which



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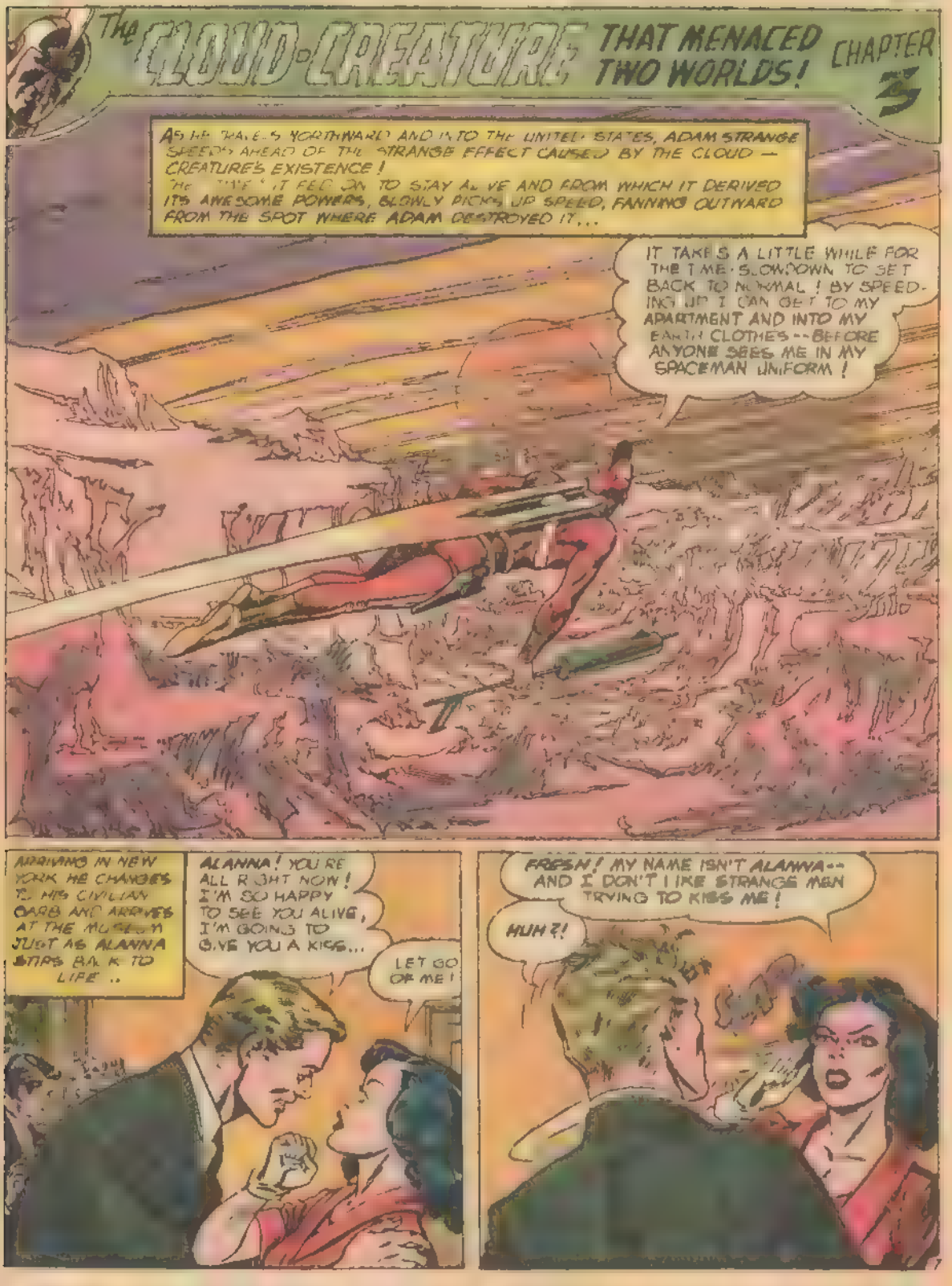
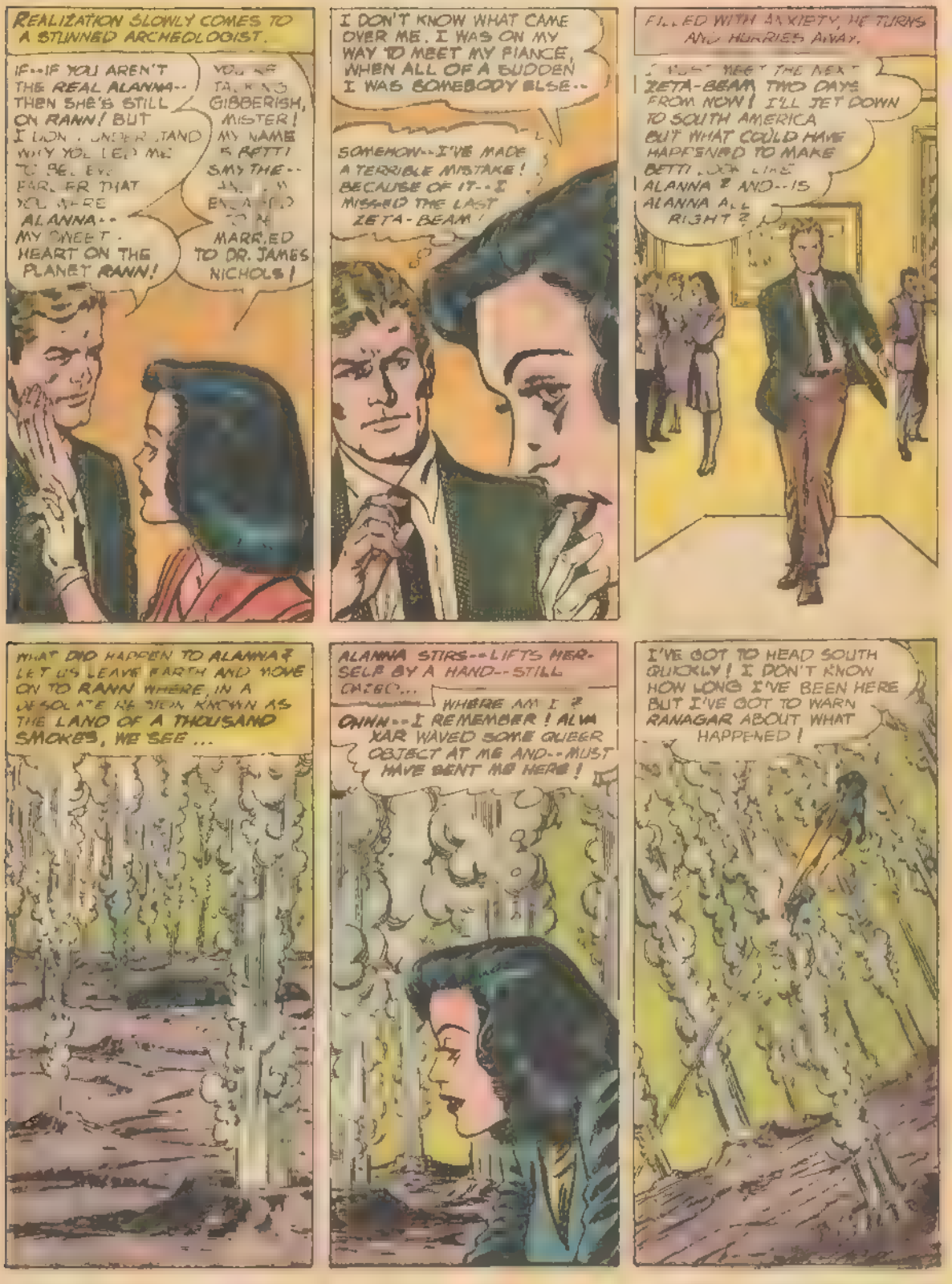
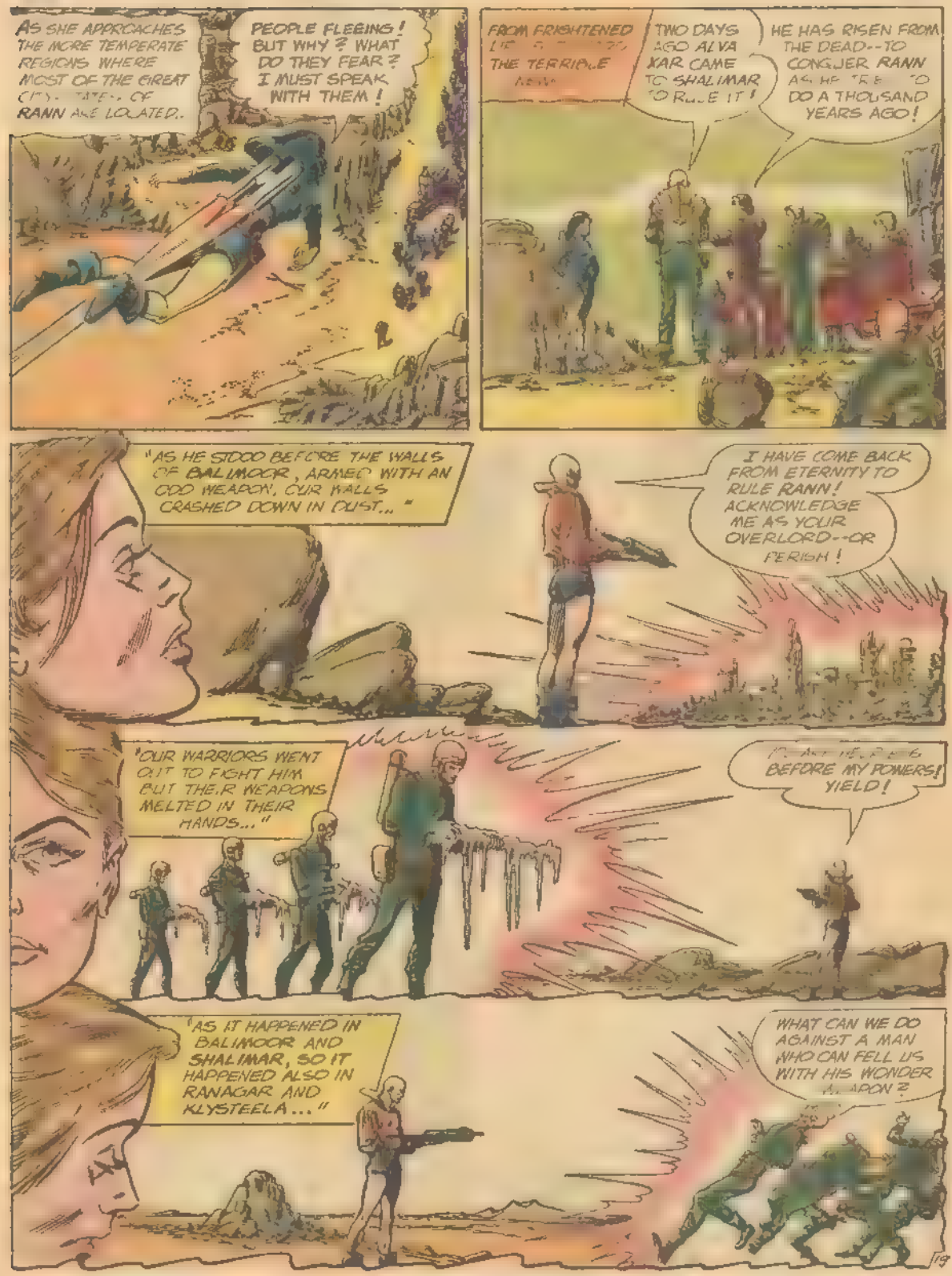
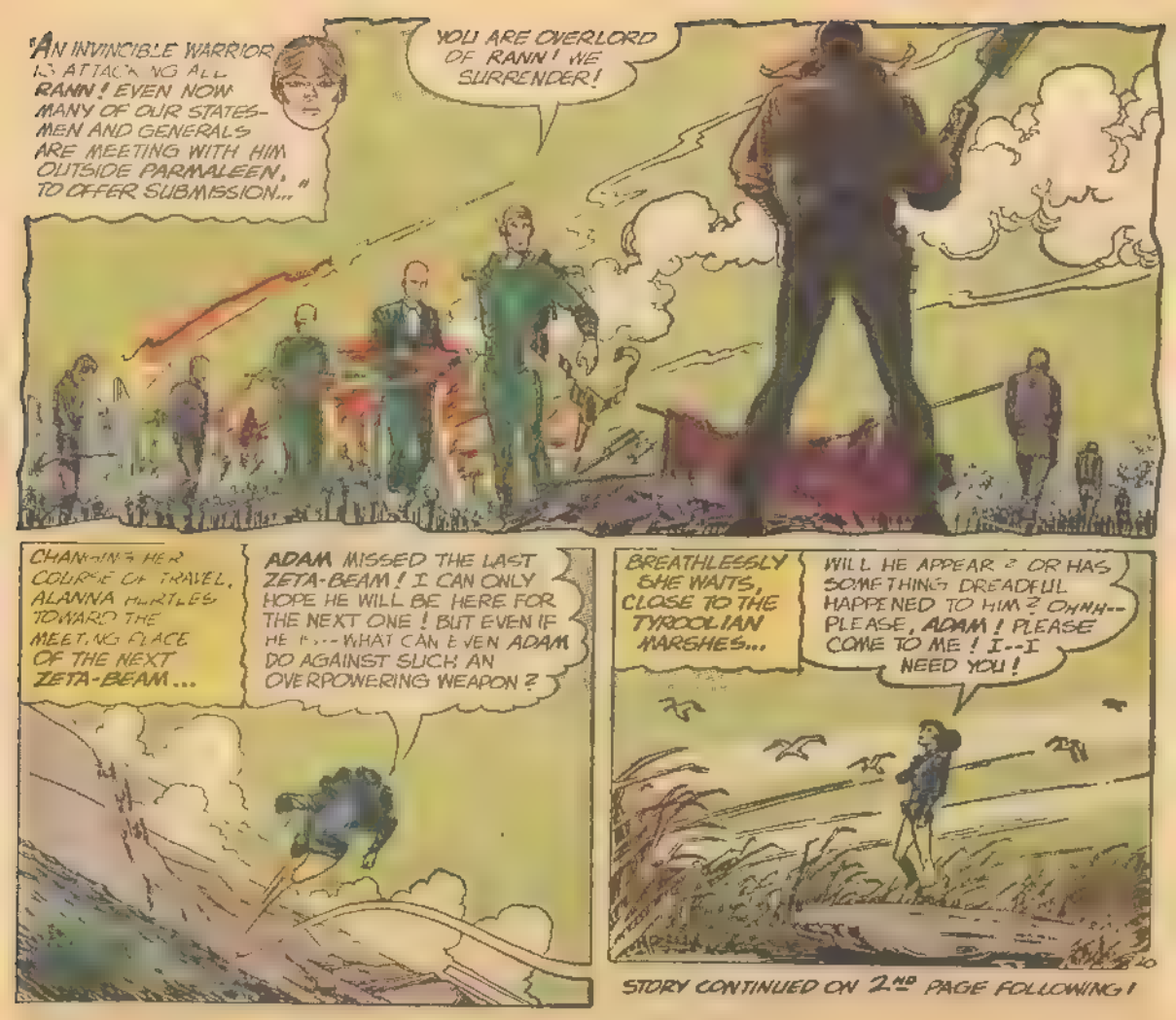

The CLOUD-CREATURE THAT MENACED TWO WORLDS! CHAPTER 3
AS HE TRAVELS NORTHWARD AND INTO THE UNITED STATES, ADAM STRANGE SPEEDS AHEAD OF THE STRANGE EFFECT CAUSED BY THE CLOUD — CREATURE'S EXISTENCE! THE TIME IT FED ON TO STAY ALIVE AND FROM WHICH IT DERIVED ITS AWESOME POWERS, SLOWLY PICKS UP SPEED, FANNING OUTWARD FROM THE SPOT WHERE ADAM DESTROYED IT...
IT TAKES A LITTLE WHILE FOR THE TIME-SLOWDOWN TO SET BACK TO NORMAL! BY SPEEDING UP I CAN GET TO MY APARTMENT AND INTO MY EARTH CLOTHES--BEFORE ANYONE SEES ME IN MY SPACEMAN UNIFORM!
ARRIVING IN NEW YORK HE CHANGES TO HIS CIVILIAN GARB AND ARRIVES AT THE MUSEUM JUST AS ALANNA STIRS BACK TO LIFE..
ALANNA! YOU'RE ALL RIGHT NOW! I'M SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU ALIVE, I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A KISS...
LET GO OF ME!
FRESH! MY NAME ISN'T ALANNA-- AND I DON'T LIKE STRANGE MEN TRYING TO KISS ME!
HUH?!


REALIZATION SLOWLY COMES TO A STUNNED ARCHEOLOGIST.
IF--IF YOU AREN'T THE REAL ALANNA--THEN SHE'S STILL ON RANN! BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU LED ME TO BELIEVE EARLIER THAT YOU WERE ALANNA--MY SWEET. HEART ON THE PLANET RANN!
YOU'RE TALKING GIBBERISH, MISTER! MY NAME IS BETTI SMYTHE--I WAS ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED TO DR. JAMES NICHOLS!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT CAME OVER ME. I WAS ON MY WAY TO MEET MY FIANCE, WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN I WAS SOMEBODY ELSE--
SOMEHOW--I'VE MADE A TERRIBLE MISTAKE! BECAUSE OF IT--I MISSED THE LAST ZETA-BEAM!
FILLED WITH ANXIETY, HE TURNS AND HURRIES AWAY.
I MUST MEET THE NEXT ZETA-BEAM TWO DAYS FROM NOW! I'LL JET DOWN TO SOUTH AMERICA BUT WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO MAKE BETTI LOOK LIKE ALANNA? AND--IS ALANNA ALL RIGHT?
WHAT DID HAPPEN TO ALANNA? LET US LEAVE EARTH AND MOVE ON TO RANN WHERE, IN A DESOLATE REGION KNOWN AS THE LAND OF A THOUSAND SMOKES, WE SEE ...
ALANNA STIRS--LIFTS HERSELF BY A HAND--STILL DAZED...
WHERE AM I? OHHH--I REMEMBER! ALVA XAR WAVED SOME QUEER OBJECT AT ME AND--MUST HAVE SENT ME HERE!
I'VE GOT TO HEAD SOUTH QUICKLY! I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I'VE BEEN HERE BUT I'VE GOT TO WARN RANAGAR ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED!


AS SHE APPROACHES THE MORE TEMPERATE REGIONS WHERE MOST OF THE GREAT CITY-STATES OF RANN ARE LOCATED..
PEOPLE FLEEING! BUT WHY? WHAT DO THEY FEAR? I MUST SPEAK WITH THEM!
FROM FRIGHTENED [illegible] THE TERRIBLE NEWS
TWO DAYS AGO ALVA XAR CAME TO SHALIMAR TO RULE IT!
HE HAS RISEN FROM THE DEAD--TO CONQUER RANN AS HE TRIED TO DO A THOUSAND YEARS AGO!
"AS HE STOOD BEFORE THE WALLS OF BALIMOOR, ARMED WITH AN ODD WEAPON, OUR WALLS CRASHED DOWN IN DUST..."
I HAVE COME BACK FROM ETERNITY TO RULE RANN! ACKNOWLEDGE ME AS YOUR OVERLORD--OR PERISH!
"OUR WARRIORS WENT OUT TO FIGHT HIM BUT THEIR WEAPONS MELTED IN THEIR HANDS..."
[illegible] BEFORE MY POWERS! YIELD!
"AS IT HAPPENED IN BALIMOOR AND SHALIMAR, SO IT HAPPENED ALSO IN RANAGAR AND KLYSTEELA..."
WHAT CAN WE DO AGAINST A MAN WHO CAN FELL US WITH HIS WONDER [illegible]


"AN INVINCIBLE WARRIOR IS ATTACKING ALL RANN! EVEN NOW MANY OF OUR STATESMEN AND GENERALS ARE MEETING WITH HIM OUTSIDE PARMALEEN, TO OFFER SUBMISSION..."
YOU ARE OVERLORD OF RANN! WE SURRENDER!
CHANGING HER COURSE OF TRAVEL, ALANNA HURTLES TOWARD THE MEETING PLACE OF THE NEXT ZETA-BEAM...
ADAM MISSED THE LAST ZETA-BEAM! I CAN ONLY HOPE HE WILL BE HERE FOR THE NEXT ONE! BUT EVEN IF HE IS--WHAT CAN EVEN ADAM DO AGAINST SUCH AN OVERPOWERING WEAPON?
BREATHLESSLY SHE WAITS, CLOSE TO THE TYRODLIAN MARSHES...
WILL HE APPEAR? OR HAS SOMETHING DREADFUL HAPPENED TO HIM? OHNH--PLEASE, ADAM! PLEASE COME TO ME! I--I NEED YOU!

STORY CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING!

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HOLD THIS PICTURE ABOUT 8 INCHES FROM YOU AT EYE LEVEL. THEN MOVE IT SLOWLY TOWARDS YOU, KEEPING YOUR EYES ON THE DOTTED LINE. AND SEE WHAT THE BOYS AND GIRLS IN AMERICA LOVE TO DO.

YOUR EYES MAY PLAY TRICKS.... BUT NOT YOUR TASTE!

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"Best Lick on a Stick"

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the only POP with the Tootsie Roll center!

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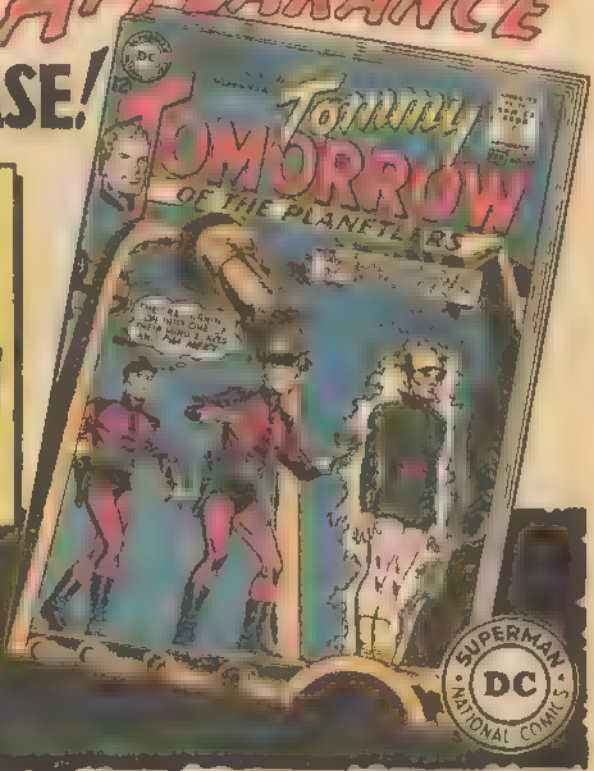
GRADUATION FROM THE WEST POINT OF SPACE LAUNCHES NEWLY-APPOINTED LIEUTENANT Tommy TOMORROW INTO HIS FIRST PERILOUS MISSION IN OUTER SPACE!



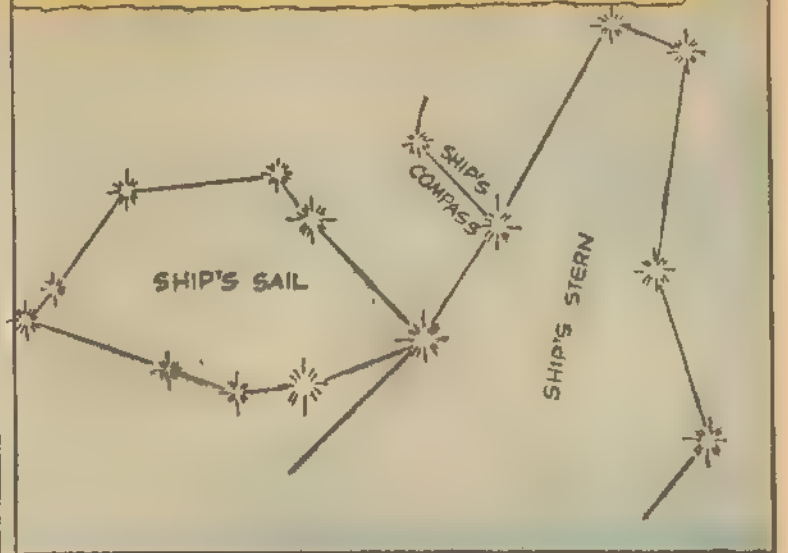
FIRST MISSION ALSO

BRAIN ROBBERS OF PLANET X

STAR NAMES!

THE BRIGHTEST STAR IN THE ***NORTHERN CROWN*** CONSTELLATION IS APPROPRIATELY NAMED ***GEMMA,*** THE LATIN TERM FOR "GEM"...

ORIGINALLY THOUGHT TO HAVE THE SHAPE OF JASON'S MYTHICAL SHIP, THE ***ARGO,*** A LARGE SOUTHERN CONFIGURATION OF STARS WAS CALLED THE ***ARGO CONSTELLATION.*** SINCE THEN IT HAS BEEN SUBDIVIDED INTO SEPARATE CONSTELLATIONS THE ***VELA (SAIL), PUPPIS (STERN)*** AND ***PYXIS (COMPASS)...***



The CLOUD-CREATURE THAT MENACED TWO WORLDS! CHAPTER 4
ALANNA FEELS THAT HER HEART WILL EXPLODE FROM SHEER SUSPENSE! AND THEN- JUST BEFORE SHE COLLAPSES FROM ANXIETY--SHE SEES HER SWEETHEART STANDING AT LAST ON THE DAMP MARSHY GROUND OF TYROOL ...
ADAM! OHHH-- ADAM! YOU MADE IT! YOU'RE HERE!
ALANNA! THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT THIS BEING MY SWEETHEART!
THEY HURL THEMSELVES AT ONE ANOTHER AND CLING, SILENTLY AND GRATEFULLY. THEN...
WHY DID YOU MISS THE LAST ZETA-BEAM? IN YOUR PLACE CAME A THOG AND-- YEAR OLD DIKTATOR OF RANN! HE'S CONQUERED THE WHOLE PLANET!
AH! THE MYSTERY IS BEGINNING TO CLEAR UP NOW! FIRST LET ME EXPLAIN THAT THE REASON I DIDN'T MEET THE BEAM WAS BECAUSE I THOUGHT YOU WERE ON EARTH WITH ME!
ALANNA LISTENS MORBIDLY TO HIS STORY AS ADAM POURS IT OUT, AND (IT MUST BE ADMITTED) A LITTLE JEALOUSLY ..
THIS BETTI SMYTHE-- WAS SHE REALLY SO MUCH LIKE ME? OH, I--I HATE HER FOR SLAPPING YOU. AND YET--SOMEHOW I CAN'T BLAME HER!
OH--LET'S NOT TALK ABOUT BETTI SMYTHE! IT'S MORE IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER ALVA XAR!

AS THEY ARE ABOUT TO SEAT THEMSELVES ON A FALLEN LOG TO TALK STRATEGY, ALANNA CRIES OUT...

IF THIS BETTI WAS ME, I SUPPOSE-- OHHH! THAT THING YOU'RE CARRYING! IT LOOKS LIKE THE VERY SAME WEAPON ALVA XAR USES!

THIS IS THE OBJECT I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT, WITH WHICH I DISPERSED THE CLOUD-CREATURE!

AS THEY CONVERGE TOGETHER, ADAM AND ALANNA GUESS AT THE TRUTH...

IF AS YOU SAY, THIS WEAPON APPEARED FIRST-- THEN ALVA XAR AFTER IT-- HE PROBABLY LET THE ZETA-BEAM HIT IT RATHER THAN HIMSELF. PROBABLY TO CHARGE IT WITH SOME PROPERTY OF THE ZETA-BEAM WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT!

FROM WHAT I'VE DETERMINED, IT REMAINS INERT WHILE IN SOMEONE'S POSSESSION! I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT IT-- TESTED IT--AND HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THIS WEAPON GIVES A PERSON THE POWER OF MIND-OVER-MATTER!

WITH A DUPLICATE OF HIS WEAPON, YOU CAN FIGHT AND BEAT ALVA XAR!

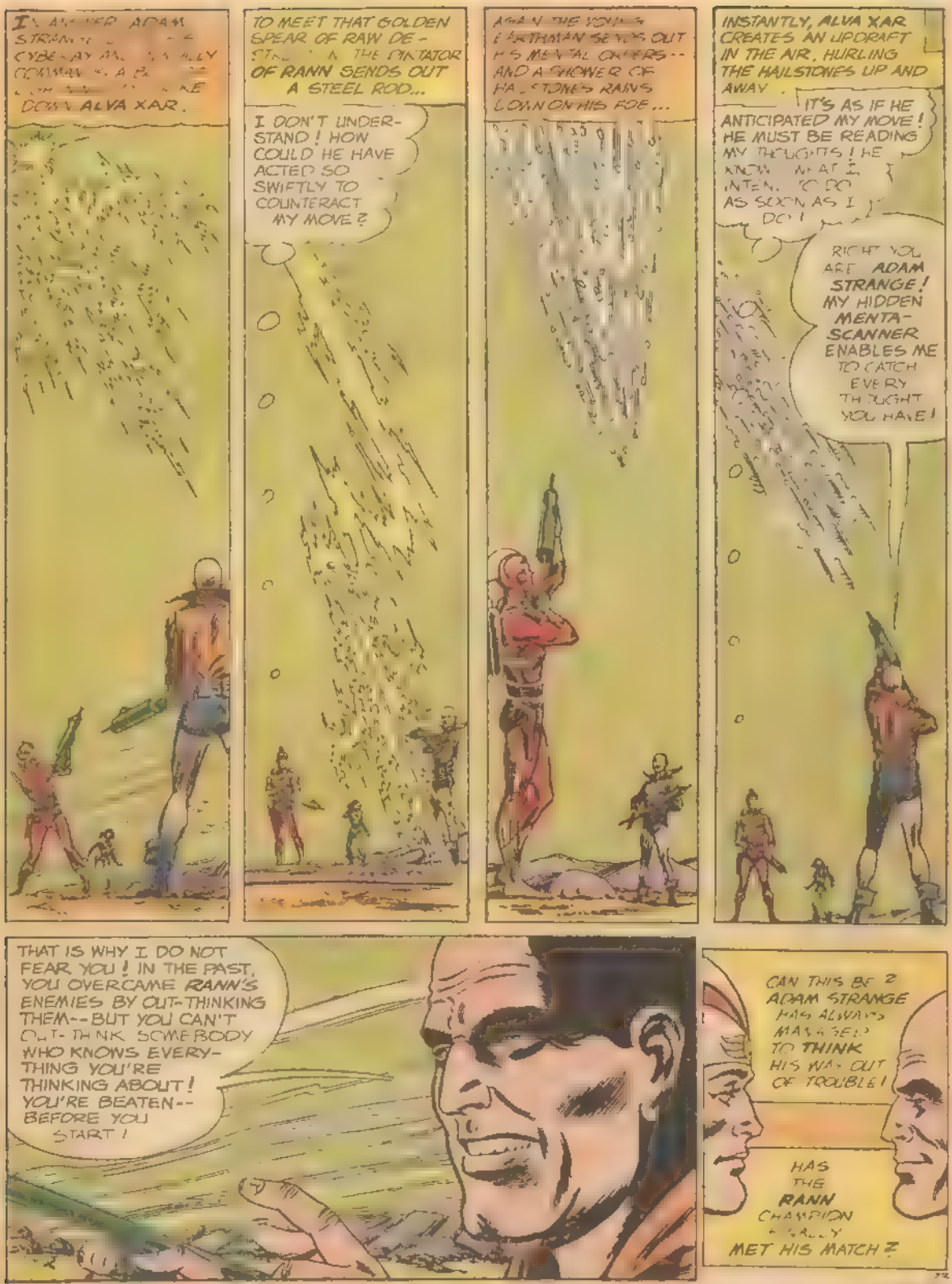
SIDE BY SIDE, THE SWEETHEARTS OF THE WORLDS JET TOWARD THE GREAT CAMP OUTSIDE PARMALEEN WHERE ALVA XAR HAS MADE HIS HEADQUARTERS...

I'LL LIFT EVERYTHING AWAY FROM THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF ALVA XAR AND SET IT DOWN GENTLY A MILE OR SO AWAY--SO WE'LL HAVE A WIDE-OPEN FIELD FOR OUR DUEL!

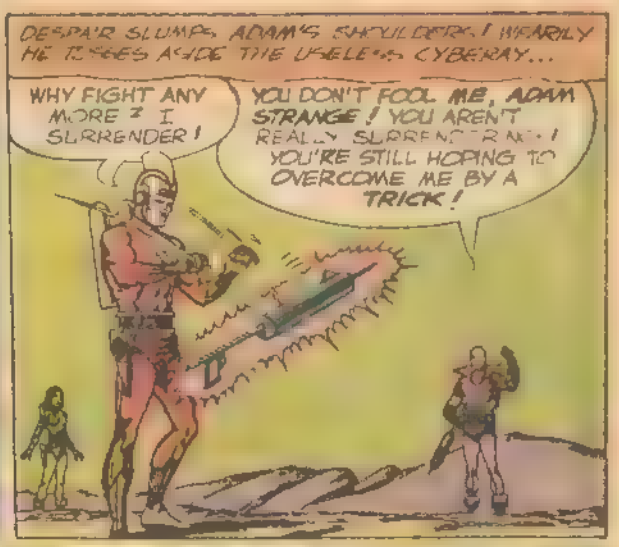
IN THE NEXT INSTANT, ALVA XAR STANDS ALONE ON THE PLAIN OF PARMALEEN...

STAY BACK, ALANNA! I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO HAPPEN TO YOU!

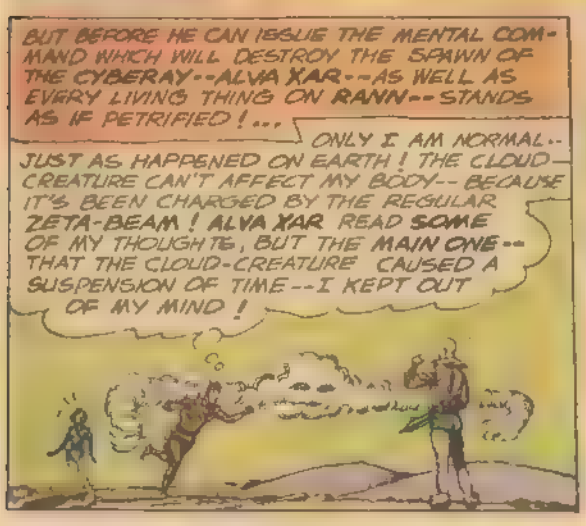
ADAM STRANGE! I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU--BUT I SHOULD WARN YOU THAT YOU'RE ONLY WASTING TIME IF YOU ARE GOING TO MAKE A FOOLHARDY ATTEMPT TO BEAT ME!

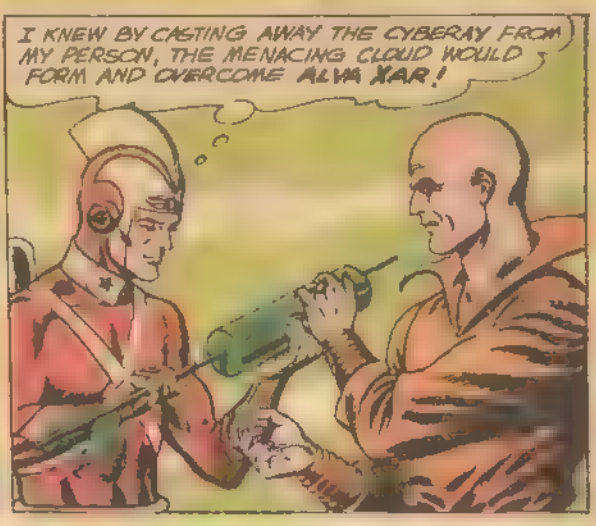

I ... ADAM STRANGE ... CYBERNETICALLY COMMAND ... DOWN ALVA XAR.
TO MEET THAT GOLDEN SPEAR OF RAW DESTRUCTION ... THE DICTATOR OF RANN SENDS OUT A STEEL ROD...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND! HOW COULD HE HAVE ACTED SO SWIFTLY TO COUNTERACT MY MOVE?
AGAIN THE YOUNG EARTHMAN SENDS OUT HIS MENTAL ORDERS... AND A SHOWER OF HAILSTONES RAINS DOWN ON HIS FOE...
INSTANTLY, ALVA XAR CREATES AN UPDRAFT IN THE AIR, HURLING THE HAILSTONES UP AND AWAY.
IT'S AS IF HE ANTICIPATED MY MOVE! HE MUST BE READING MY THOUGHTS! HE KNOWS WHAT I INTEND TO DO AS SOON AS I DO!
RIGHT YOU ARE ADAM STRANGE! MY HIDDEN MENTA-SCANNER ENABLES ME TO CATCH EVERY THOUGHT YOU HAVE!
THAT IS WHY I DO NOT FEAR YOU! IN THE PAST, YOU OVERCAME RANN'S ENEMIES BY OUT-THINKING THEM--BUT YOU CAN'T OUT-THINK SOMEBODY WHO KNOWS EVERYTHING YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT! YOU'RE BEATEN--BEFORE YOU START!
CAN THIS BE? ADAM STRANGE HAS ALWAYS MANAGED TO THINK HIS WAY OUT OF TROUBLE!
HAS THE RANN CHAMPION FINALLY MET HIS MATCH?

TEARS RUN DOWN ALANNA'S CHEEKS AS SHE WATCHES HER SWEETHEART FACE THE MIGHTIEST OF ALL HIS FOES...
ADAM, DARLING! ¡SOB! YOU'VE TRIED AS BEST AS YOU KNOW HOW BUT-- BUT IT ISN'T ANY USE!

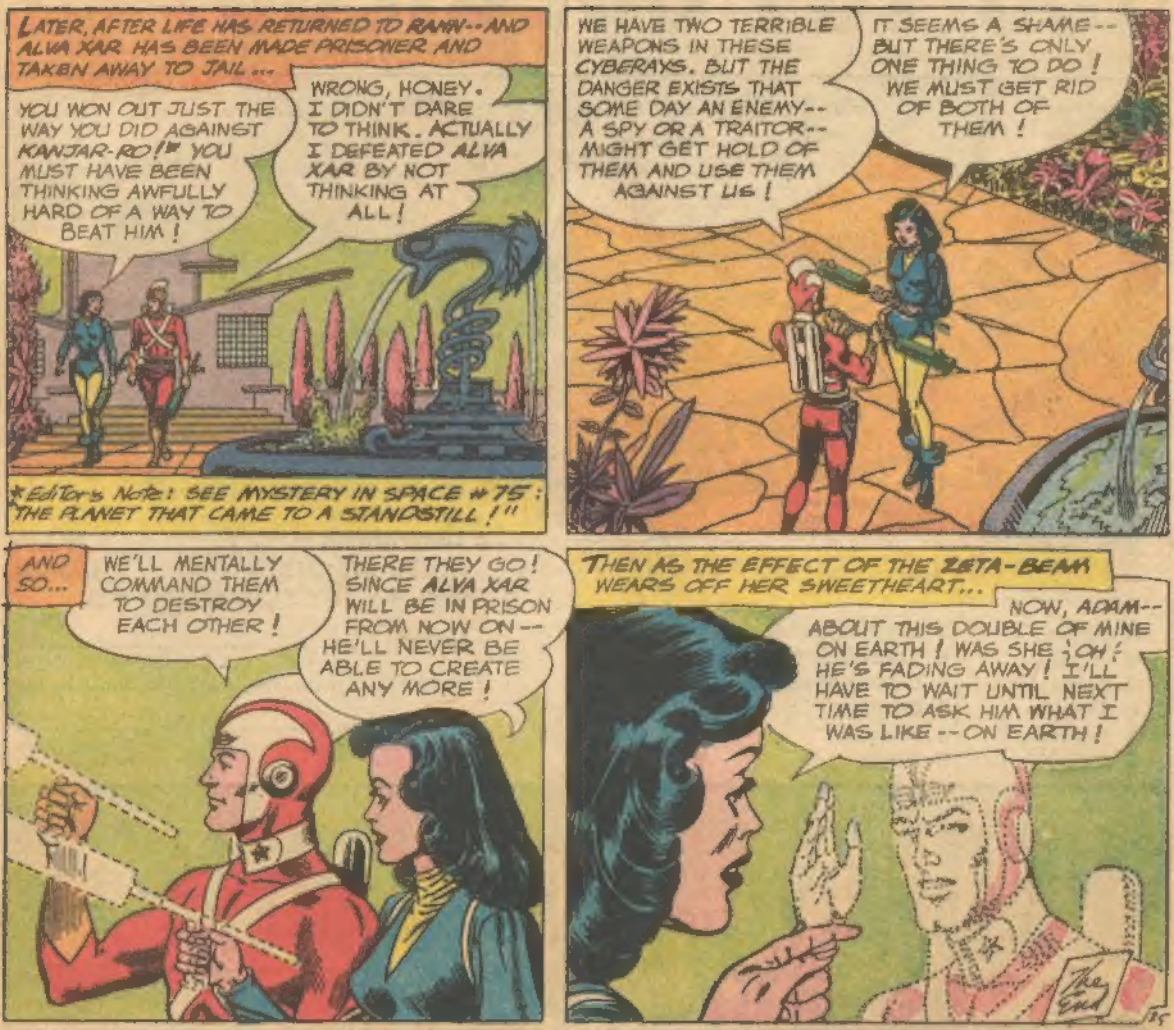

DESPAIR SLUMPS ADAM'S SHOULDERS! WEARILY HE TOSSES ASIDE THE USELESS CYBERAY...
WHY FIGHT ANY MORE? I SURRENDER!
YOU DON'T FOOL ME, ADAM STRANGE! YOU AREN'T REALLY SURRENDERING! YOU'RE STILL HOPING TO OVERCOME ME BY A TRICK!

YOU'RE THINKING THAT NOW YOU'VE LET GO OF THE CYBERAY, THE CLOUD-CREATURE YOU OVERCAME ON EARTH WILL FORM AND DESTROY ME! BUT-- YOU FORGET THAT WITH MY CYBERAY I CAN DISPERSE IT JUST AS YOU DID BACK ON YOUR HOME PLANET!


BUT BEFORE HE CAN ISSUE THE MENTAL COMMAND WHICH WILL DESTROY THE SPAWN OF THE CYBERAY--ALVA XAR--AS WELL AS EVERY LIVING THING ON RANN--STANDS AS IF PETRIFIED!...
ONLY I AM NORMAL-- JUST AS HAPPENED ON EARTH! THE CLOUD-CREATURE CAN'T AFFECT MY BODY-- BECAUSE IT'S BEEN CHARGED BY THE REGULAR ZETA-BEAM! ALVA XAR READ SOME OF MY THOUGHTS, BUT THE MAIN ONE-- THAT THE CLOUD-CREATURE CAUSED A SUSPENSION OF TIME--I KEPT OUT OF MY MIND!


I KNEW BY CASTING AWAY THE CYBERAY FROM MY PERSON, THE MENACING CLOUD WOULD FORM AND OVERCOME ALVA XAR!

BEFORE ALVA XAR CAN RECOVER FROM THE SUSPENSION OF TIME THAT GRIPS HIM, I'LL REMOVE HIS MENTA-SCANNER AND MAKE HIM MY PRISONER!


LATER, AFTER LIFE HAS RETURNED TO RANN--AND ALVA XAR HAS BEEN MADE PRISONER AND TAKEN AWAY TO JAIL...
YOU WON OUT JUST THE WAY YOU DID AGAINST KANJAR-RO!* YOU MUST HAVE BEEN THINKING AWFULLY HARD OF A WAY TO BEAT HIM!
WRONG, HONEY. I DIDN'T DARE TO THINK. ACTUALLY I DEFEATED ALVA XAR BY NOT THINKING AT ALL!
*EDITOR'S NOTE: SEE MYSTERY IN SPACE #75: "THE PLANET THAT CAME TO A STANDSTILL!"
WE HAVE TWO TERRIBLE WEAPONS IN THESE CYBERAYS. BUT THE DANGER EXISTS THAT SOME DAY AN ENEMY--A SPY OR A TRAITOR--MIGHT GET HOLD OF THEM AND USE THEM AGAINST US!
IT SEEMS A SHAME--BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO! WE MUST GET RID OF BOTH OF THEM!
AND SO...
WE'LL MENTALLY COMMAND THEM TO DESTROY EACH OTHER!
THERE THEY GO! SINCE ALVA XAR WILL BE IN PRISON FROM NOW ON--HE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO CREATE ANY MORE!
THEN AS THE EFFECT OF THE ZETA-BEAM WEARS OFF HER SWEETHEART...
NOW, ADAM--ABOUT THIS DOUBLE OF MINE ON EARTH! WAS SHE--OH! HE'S FADING AWAY! I'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL NEXT TIME TO ASK HIM WHAT I WAS LIKE--ON EARTH!
The End

STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, JULY 2, 1946 AND JUNE 11, 1960 (74 STAT. 208) SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF MYSTERY IN SPACE, published 8 times yearly at Sparta, Illinois, for October 1, 1962.

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J. S. Liebowitz, Business Manager

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of September, 1962.

Daniel Epstein, Notary Public
(My commission expires March 30, 1963)

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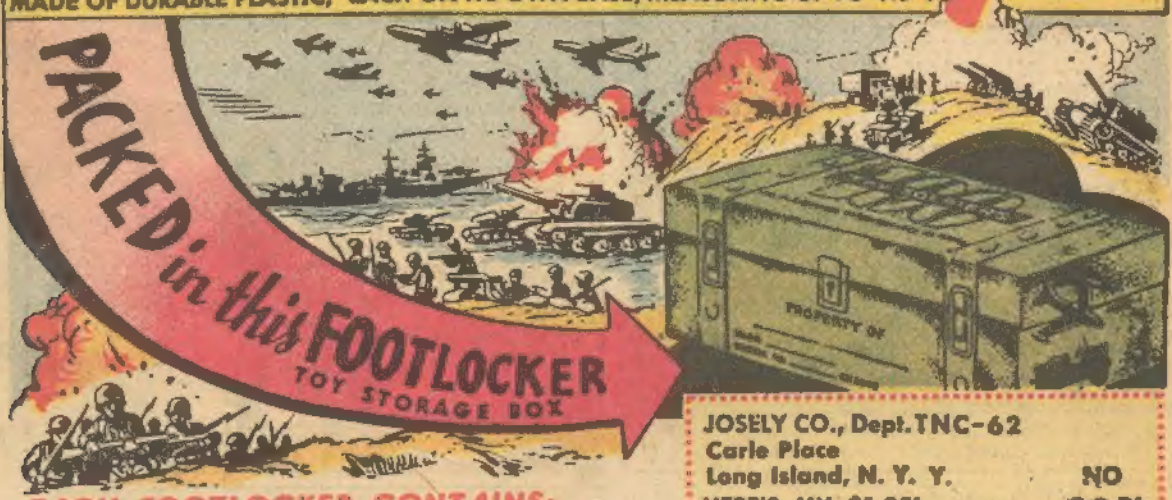

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SKINNY OR FAT, 15, 20, 30 OR 40 YEARS OF AGE

Just RUSH me your LAST CHANCE COUPON below with YOUR NAME and ADDRESS ON IT

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YES! Your Success Story Can Soon be like John Sill and thousands of my pupils. Think of it — a skinny weakling like you became a MAGNIFICENT MR. MUSCLES — won a BIG SILVER TROPHY, his name, accomplishments engraved on it and $100. A few weeks before, everybody picked on John, too weak to fight for his rights. TODAY everybody admires John's movie star build, he-man STRENGTH, his mighty ARMS, heroic CHEST, slender WAIST, rock-like TORSO, broad manly BACK, wide military SHOULDERS, new popularity with the BOYS and GIRLS. His winning drive in ALL SPORTS, his energy at work and studies.

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are, if you are in your teens, twenties or thirties. In your home, you can make yourself over by the easy, quick method I turned myself from a wreck to a tower of strength and endurance.

YES! YOU'LL ADD INCH upon INCH of MIGHTY MUSCLES to YOUR ARMS, YOU'LL DEEPEN YOUR CHEST, BROADEN YOUR BACK and SHOULDERS. From HEAD to HEELS you'll gain SIZE, POWER, LIGHTNING SPEED, ENDURANCE. You'll become the SUCCESSFUL HE-MAN IN LOOKS and ACTS — a WINNER in EVERYTHING, athletics, business, studies.

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This Can Be YOU in a Short Time!

BEFORE

Mailing Coupon I was a 125 lb. 6 ft. skinny weakling

says JOHN SILL

I added 7 inches to MY CHEST, 3½ INCHES to EACH ARM. No, Pal! You don't have to be a chicken-chested skinny weakling like I was only a few weeks ago.

AFTER

Mailing Coupon 185 lb. HEAD-TO-TOE HE-MAN POPULAR ATHLETE You can be, too!

This now MAGNIFICENT, MODERN HERCULES, 26 yr. old teacher, Wm. Butler,

says to YOU "No matter WHAT your age, I advise you to SEND for the ABC-WONDER PICTURE COURSES at once. Under the World's greatest home training BODY BUILDER, I now have 18½" ARMS, a 52" CHEST, my STRENGTH has greatly improved. So have my sports. I have won titles like "Mr. Virginian," "Mr. State Y.M.C.A.," etc.

How would YOU like to have 18½ inch ARMS, a 52 inch CHEST like this ABC pupil NOW HAS?

I BROKE A WORLD'S STRENGTH RECORD!

BEFORE

AFTER mailing coupon below— like you do NOW.

JIM NORMAN became Athlete of the Year. Lifted the front End of a 2700 lb. Car. Quit, being a bag-of-bones weakling like I was. In 10 minutes of fun a day, A.B.C CAN DO FOR YOU ALL HE DID FOR ME! I gained 25 TERRIFIC LBS. of HANDSOME POWER-PACKED MUSCLES.

MAIL THE COUPON TO ME NOW and I'll Send You FREE these 5 AMAZING PICTURE-PACKED TEST COURSES

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PLUS BOOK OF PHOTOS OF FAMOUS STRONG MEN ONCE WEAK LIKE YOU

MILLIONS were sold at $1.00. Send for them ALL FREE. Mail Coupon BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!

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Mail me FREE all 5 WORLD FAMOUS STRENGTH TEST COURSES, including PHOTO BOOK of FAMOUS STRONG MEN, once weaklings, now famous Strong Men, and How to Become one of Them.

☐ I enclose 10c for mailing and handling.
I am under no other obligation.

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☐ I want to streamline my body, get rid of flabby fat.
☐ I want to add inches of muscle to my ☐ ARMS ☐ CHEST ☐ SHOULDERS ☐ POWERFUL LEGS ☐ SLIM WAIST
☐ I want to become a winning athlete. ☐ I want new pep.

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